U.N. chief to meet Gorbachev

UNITED NATIONS (R) - Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar will visit Moscow next week for talks with Prosident Mikhail Gorbachev and other Seviet Itaders and to address an international forum on the environment and development, a U.N. spokesman said Tuesday. He will be in the Seviet capital from Jan. 15 to 17. It is not known when Garbacher and there is no fixed agenda for their meeting, the spokesma said. The Soviet Union in recent years has called for a greater role for the United Nations. Gerbachev addressed the U.N. General Assembly in December 1988 but cut short his visit because of a major earthquake in Soviet Armenia. Perez de Cueliur, who last visited Moscow in June 1987, will also address a group called the Global Forum on the environment and development. He returns to New York for a family gathering on Jun. 19 to celebrate his 70th birthday.

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Brief clashes erupt along Beirut's green line

Inter-Shi'ite war 'near end'

BEIRUT (AP) - A. Tohran nediator said the fight between ival Shi'ite Muslim milities for nastery of Lebanon's largest sect is nearing its end" Tuesday, while gunmen along the capital's swing line briefly traced shots. Police said no casualties were eported from the 10-minute exhange of gunfire and rocketmopelied grenades between

Christian army units and Syrianxacked militiamen across the denarcation line. But a police statement expressod alarm over the accelerating

empo of civil war truce violaions, saying four people were alled and 12 wounded in four

It was the heaviest toll since a exactive called by the Arab League on Sept. 22 halted six months of savage artiliery ducks etween army Gen. Michel Aoun's troops and the Syrian mmy. That round killed 929 peohe and wounded 2,744. Ten's deputy foreign minister,

wonammad Ali Besharati said b' he fighting between the Tehran-A backed Hezbollah, or Party of 3od, and the Syrian-aligned Amai Movement in South Lebason would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and ine warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati bld reporters after a two-hour mineeting in Muslim west Beisut with Amal chieftain Nabih Berri. Berri said he told Besharati light Amai would adhere to the Percasefire if Hezbollah agrees to lewithdraw from all territory it conrequered during the premions 17 medays of fighting in South Lobs donou's loim Al Tuffah. ch Tehran Radio, monitored in

WinNicosia, said the two sides and gastso agreed to exchange prisoners. with the same time as the with-Keirawal.

his Hizboliah said in a statement it al avas ready to stop shooting and Almoegin simultaneous talks for durminble coexistence that would "turn Hell the guns against the Israeli The South Lebanon fighting

killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erepted on Dec. 23. Amai and Hizbolish called a 7-hour mercy ceasefire Monday that

Police said the truce beld through Tuesday.

allowed Red Cross workers to

remove corpses from the battle-

The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi ito community for more than two years.

Amai disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hizbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Fazbolish's "naval op-

erations commander." Amal spokesmen say Siklawi, who had a two-year naval training course in Iran, defected because he refused orders to mount a navel attack on the Assal-heid oil terminal of Zahrazi south of the port city of Sidon.

The maborne attackers were to link up with Hizbolish ground forces pushing through the Iqlim Al Tuffah so as to cut off Amal supply routes from Beirut to South Lebanon, according to the

along with a senior side identified as Imad Youris, torpedoed the

Hizbolish confirmed that Siklawi was its naval operations chief. But it charged Amal had kidnapped him along with Younis from their native village of Dir Qunoun Ai Nahr and placed them under house arrest in Tyre. It also demed the alleged scaborne attack. In east Lebanon's Bekas Val-

ley, police said two villagers were wounded when Israel's allied militia, the South Lebanon Army, poured artillery fire on bases on Syrian-backed Palestinian and leftist Lebanese guerrilins in the villages of Sultan

Yacoub, Luci and Kamed Al

The area has long been a launching pad for guerrilla raids into the Israeli-controlled zone in South Lebanon. The 2,500-strong, predominantly Falangist SLA They said Sikiawi's defection, and an estimated 1.500 Israeli troops jointly patrol the enclave along the southern border.

Ahmad Jibril, leader of the Syrian-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, accused PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat of instigating the fighting in the Iqlim A

He also accused Arafat loyalists of collaborating with the Israeli army and their Lebanese

Jibril condemned the recent deployment of Arafat's men as a disengagement force. Tehran Radio reported that Jibril also met with Besharati to discuss the situation.



Rescue workers carry the body of a Shif'ite lighter to put it in an ambulance in the southern Lebanese village of Sarba

Strike marks 26th month of uprising; collaborator killed

CCUPIED JERUSALEM 4P) - A Palestinian woman as knifed to death in the occuied Gaza Strip, and slogans that ppeared on walls Tuesday acused her of collaborating with

Also, Tuesday, shops in the de scupied territories were closed way a strike to mark the start of the he sth month of the Palestinian Managainst Israeli rule.

Me Also Tuesday, the army said hook for some 320,000 And partildren would open in the West als ank starting Wednesday. Gaza e trip elementary and secondary thooks for about 180,000 stupents, will open Sunday, officials

At The schools had been closed pin a holiday break, and the my resisted efforts by the Unfed Nations and other groups to affishme classes earlier to make up of time lost last year during

my-mandated closures. The army closed elementary in thools and high schools in the morest Bank for much of the 1988the school year, contending they ree organising points for the

technical schools have been closed since the start of the upris-

The woman killed in the southern Gaza town of Rafah was identified as Zifra Abu Libda, 36. Arab reports said masked Palestinians came into her home late Monday night and stabbed her repeatedly. They said alogans Thesday on walls in Rafah accused her of collaboration.

The army confirmed the death and said police were investi-

Her death raised to 167 the number of Palestinians killed by fellow Arabs since the uprising. Most have been killed for either collaboration or involvement in drug and prostitution.

Some 646 Palestinians have been killed by Israelis during the

Mrs. Abn Libda was the second Palestinian killed for suspected collaboration this year despite a leastet distributed in the West Bank in late December

calling for restraint. The leafet, attributed to PLO leader Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatch faction, called for an end to killing without author-

isation from the leadership. Earlier warnings, from the ing on Dec. 8, 1987. PLO-backed underground leadership of the uprising said suspected collaborators should be given an opportunity to repent

and make amends before any killings were carried out. Also Tuesday, military sources said Israel has jailed a soldier for saying on army radio it should leave the occupied territories of

the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Radio announcer Gil Komar was sentenced to 14 days in a military prison for breaching regulations that prohibit enlisted soldiers from expressing a political

opinion in a public forum. Having played the popular song "Everything Will be All Right" on his radio show, Komar said: "Everything will be all right if we leave the territories."

His remarks sparked angry calls from listeners. The song, by David Broza, recalls the 1977 visit to Israel by the late Egyptian President

Anwar Sadat "We said let's make peace and

five as brother. And he (Sadat) -said let's go, just withdraw from the territories," runs the lyric.

Luwait rules out parliament

UWAIT (R) - Kuwaiti Inamation Minister Sheikh Jaber bebarak Al Sabah, speaking afr police dispersed hundreds of. o-democracy demonstrators. of id Tuesday the dissolved parliaent would not be reconstituted. "The old assembly will not turn," the minister told Reuters an interview.

But he said the government of as considering ways of reintropicing democracy in the Gulf ate. "If there is a new concept, t have no objection," he said. Police Monday night fired two renades to disperse crowds ying to reach the home of hmed Shairan, where the latest a series of weekly meetings was be held to support the recall of parliament, dissolved in 1986.

lights flashing lined the streets around the house and units of Kuwait's Elite Special Forces stopped cars trying to enter the neighbourhood

Witnesses heard the ston gronades and saw scores of people running from the area of Shairan's house in the town of Jahra 30 kilometres from the centre of Kuwait.

Sheikh Jaber confirmed that two "sound" grenades had been fired but he said police used them only after crowds tried to break

through a police cordon. Witnesses said police used rubber and wooden truncheons to prevent demonstrators trying to reach the meeting site.

"The police were shoulder to

Dozens of police cars with bine shoulder and wouldn't let them through," Ahmad Al Bishara, a former vice-president of Kuwait University, told Reuters. The demonstrators were trying to convince them peacefully.

He said he himself received about six blows when police began beating the crowd.

Witnesses said at least six other people were also hit, including 70-year-old former member of pertisment Mohummad Ahmad Rashaid, who received two blows on the back.

Sheikh Jaber said he had no information on any beatings. He said the demonstrators had been told a week earlier the gathering was illegal, and added that the protesters represented only a tiny minority of Knwaiti opinion.

Turkey, Bulgaria discuss minority

KUWAIT (Agencies) -- The foreign ministers of Bulgaria and Turkey met in Kuwait Tuesday to discuss Bulgaria's minority Muslims, thousands of whom fled to Turkey last year to escape forced

The Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA), quoted diplomatic sources as saying Bulgaria's Boyko Dimitrov and Turkey's Mesur Yihinaz discussed ways of

improving relations between their About 310,000 ethnic Turks fled Bulgaris last year because of the now discredited assimilation

campaign of former Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov. Bulgaria's new leaders have granted religious rights to the Muslims, sparking protests from

Bulgarian nationalists. KUNA gave few details of the foreign ministers's talks but said they agreed their deputies should meet in Ankara next month to

iron out outstanding issues. The Knwait meeting was the second round of talks on the minority problem and the first since Zhivkov was ousted from power in November.

KUNA quoted Turkish diplomats as saying the issue had been solved by the new government's decision to allow freedom of

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad welcomed his guests at the Bayan Palace, 13 kilometres south of the city centre.

Sheikh Sabah vowed in a speech that Kuwait, which holds the rotating presidency of the 46-member Organisation of the Islamic Conference, will continue its mediation bid until a settlement is achieved.

Al Hussein hopes world changes will have positive effect on Mideast peace

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday expressed hope that the current world changes and the trend towards world peace would favourably affect the Middle East region whose peoples can benefit from a just and commehensive peace to focus their efforts towards building a better future for the coming generations.

"But peace can not be achieved here at the expense of the rights and the lands of the Palestinian people and their legitimate representative, the

Palestine Liberation Organication (PLO)," King Hussein said at a meeting with a delegation representing the National Council of World Affairs Organisations and the Unitarian Universalist Association congregation in the United States.

"The PLO and the Palestinian people have effered all they could for the sake of reaching a just peace with Israel, but the Israeli leadership seems to be atraid of peace, and todate, it has falled to respond to the Palestinian positive stand with a similar

move that can give an impetus to the Middle East peace efforts, the King pointed out. In reviewing the Middle East issue with the delegation, the King dwelt on the developments in the Palestine problem, the situation in Lebanon and

the Gulf, where the King stres-

sed the need for a lasting peace

between Iran and Iraq. The meeting, at the Royal Court, was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and the King's political advisor Adnan Abu



HM King Hussein

Mideast breakthrough ties with East Europe

WASHINGTON (R) - U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has told a visiting foreign minister he is losing hope of achieving a breakthrough that would lead to Israeli-Palestinian peace talks and said he may soon drop his initiative, diplomatic sources said Tuesday.

The sources said Baker sounded very pessimistic on the Middle East in a private meeting with Norwegian Foreign Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik at the State Department Monday.

"It was very surprising and worrying," said one source present at the meeting. "Bondevik urged Baker to

persevere and said his initiative represented the only hope of progress but Baker said that with so many other things happening in the world, he might soon decide to devote all his time to areas where there was some hope of getting things done," the source

His account of the conversation was confirmed by others present at the meeting.

Baker put forward a five-point peace plan last October aimed at paving the way to what would be unprecedented direct talks between Israel and a Palestinian delegation on how to arrange elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

After weeks of laborious discussions, Israel and Egypt, which is acting on behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), accepted the points but each attached certain, contradictory conditions.

Israel insisted on having a veto over members of the Palestinian delegation to the talks to minimise PLO influence. The PLO said it must name the delegates. Baker, who will meet Israeli

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Washington next week, hopes that giving Palestinians some say over their affairs through elections would take the edge off the two-year Palestinian uprising in the territories which has claimed over 800 lives.

Only last week, administration officials sounded optimistic about the prospects of arranging a ministerial meeting in Washington between Baker, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and his Egyptian counterpart Esmat Abdul Meguid to decide the final details of the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

But State Department Spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said Monday that meeting was now in

"Obviously there is work to be done. It is absurd to have a meeting if the meeting produces nothing. You have to feel fairly confident that having a meeting is worthwhile, not just a meeting for meeting's sake." Tutwiler

Although administration officials have avoided blaming any party for the holdup, most analysts see Israel's right-wing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir as the main stumbling block to progress. Shamir, backed up his bardline stance last week by banning several West Bank Palestinian leaders from travelling abroad, a move condemned by the United States as sending the wrong signal to Palestinians interested in

Several of those affected by the travel ban were seen as obvious candidates for inclusion in the Palestinian delegation.

Tutwiler called on Israel to review and reverse the banning

Baker losing hope for | Arab states want good

TUNIS (R) — Arab states said Tuesday they were anxious to preserve good relations with Eastern Europe and were confident newly free nations there would support freedom for the Palestinians.

Ambassadors from the Arab League member states met in Tunis at the request of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to discuss the effects change in Eastern Europe would have on the Arab World.

The Arabs are concerned the new governments may stop giving automatic diplomatic support to Arab causes at international meetings. Hungary has already restored relations with Israel and others are moving in the same direction.

A statement issued by the Arab League said the meeting "affirmed the determination of the Arab states to maintain the friendly relations which exist between the peoples of these (East European) states and the Arab nation_"

"It expressed its conviction freedom and dignity will back the cause of freedom for the other peoples of the world, including the people of Palestine."

The ambassadors welcomed statements from Bucharest and Budapest denying media reports that Arab mercenaries had fought on the side of executed Romanian President Nicolae Ceansescul

The Arabs have blamed pro-Israeli forces of propagating the with Eastern Europe.

Meanwhile. Israel's drive to restore ties with Eastern Europe Hungarian prime minister and East Germany.

moves toward full relations by Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn, on the second day of a three-day visit, said Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth would arrive in late February, the highest-level visit in more than 22 years from East European countries that severed ties in 1967.

Hungary became the first East European country to restore relations with Israel last September, and Poland said Monday it expected to resume ties with the

lewish state next month. "I think that the restoration of diplomatic relations between Poland and Israel will take place at the end of the next month," Polish Foreign Ministry spokesman Stefan Staniszewski said.

"What is being discussed is the date and not the issue itself," he said in Warsaw.

Israel has worked for years to resume relations which East European countries broke off to show support for Arab nations in the 1967 Middle East war. Only maverick Romania maintained ties throughout the past 22 years. But dramatic political upheav-

als in the Soviet Bloc have speeded the restoration of ties. with those countries furthest along in democratic reform being the first to improve relations. "Hungary are the forerunners

in Eastern Europe," said a Foreign Ministry official. "Many other countries are looking to see how things develop. We hope developments with Czechoslovakia reports to damage Arab relations will be as positive as with Hun-

Israeli officials said there had been no contact with Bulgaria so accelerated Monday with far but there had been encouragannouncement of a visit by the ing statements from officials in

Kadoumi: U.S. unfit as Mideast peace broker

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — A Palestinian leader said Tuesday that the United States is unfit as a peace broker in the Middle East because it consistently backs

Farouk Kadoumi, the foreign minister of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, told the Associated Press in an interview that the U.S. administration is not serious in its effort to bring about peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

"The United States is totally biased toward Israel. ... How can it be an honest and fair broker for a peace settlement?" he said. Kadoumi said the United

States is trying to impose what he described as "a white flag settlement" on the PLO by forcing it to accept Israeli conditions for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. He referred to the expected

meeting between the foreign ministers of Egypt and Israel with American Secretary of State James Baker III in Washington as "uscless exercise because it deviates from the genuine path of

Kadoumi also said the PLO is not optimistic about the outcome of the meeting between the three ministers, initiated by Baker, to prepare for preliminary talks between the Palestinians and the Israelis.

The Israelis have said no PLOlinked officials could participate, while the PLO has stipulated that the agenda for the talks be wide open and not restricted to the election proposal.

"Tee PLO has never entertained any expectations on such meetings... because they always result in more conspiritorial attempts against the cause of the Palestinian people," he said.

But he said Egypt is trying to break the deadlock in the Middle East peace process by making some suggestions and involving the two parties in negotiations. "Our brothers in Egypt are trying with their modest effort to push the peace process forward on a path fraught with dangers,"

Kadoumi lashed out at Israel as the main obstacle hindering a Middle East peace settlement. "It is the obstinance and arrogance of hte Israelis and their terroristic practices in the occu-

he said.

peace settlement," he said. At least 646 Arabs have died under Israeli gunfire during the 25-month-old Palestinian uprising against Isreli rule there.

pied territories which hinder the

Kadoumi added, "however, the PLO will continue pursuing a peace settlement to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict based on the initiative declared by the Palestine National Council in Algeria in October 1988."

Kadonmi reiterated the PLO position that only an international conference on the Middle East can bring peace to the area.

He said the option for such a conference has not been dropped because of the recent developments and denied reports that the Soviet Union might prefer peace negotiations without the involvement of the United Nations.

"There is a necessity that any settlement be guaranteed by the international body," he said.

Kadoumi said he will visit Chi-

na in the next few days to discuss

the situation in the Middle East and China's role in pushing peace efforts. He expressed support for proposals to convene a new Palestine National Council soon to discuss latest developments in the

Palestinian arena. He said the

PLO leadership would meet soon to discuss a council meeting and fix its date. George Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine Monday called for a PNC meeting to review the peace

effort. PLO officials said Tuesday there were no plans for an early meeting of the PNC to review peace strategy or accommodate

"It is not under discussion. It hasn't been raised officially," a Palestine Liberation Organisation official said.

The Popular Struggle Front, one of four Damascus-based dissident groups which broke with the mainstream in 1983, said it formula for reuniting Palestinian

Habash said on Sunday that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was not "enthusiastic about the idea but we are very entire-

Meanwhile, the director of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office said Tuesday the United States could break a deadlock in convening Israeli-Palestinian peace talks by clearly rejecting any role for the PLO.

"We feel somewhat uneasy that there is a reticence on the part of the U.S. government to say clearly that the PLO will not be involved in that process. That would solve the issue totally,' Director-General Yossi Ben-Aharon told reporters.

Israeli press reports quote U.S. officials as saying that there will be no PLO role in the talks "at the present stage." The reports say that Israel wants that qualifying phrase removed.

The U.S. State Department said Monday that Israel, Egypt and the United States were too far apart to call a meeting of their foreign ministers in Washington this month aimed at bringing about unprecedented Israeli-Palestinian talks.

"I think that the Americans have a problem of reconciling our position with that of the Egyp-

tians," Ben-Aharon said. "You will notice that they (the Americans) mention the word Palestinians, and that many a time it is synonymous with the. wanted a PNC session to agree on a PLO. If it is synonymous with the PLO, you have an obstacle. If it isn't, then we are in business," he

> Ben-Aharon denied any suggestion of growing tensions with the United States, despite Washington's criticism of an Israeli travel ban imposed on Palestinian leaders from the occupied territories last week.

Ethnic Turkish immigrants say no rush to return to Bulgaria

EDIRNE, Turkey (AP) — Dospite Bulgaria's decision to restore rights to its minority ethnic Turkish population, tens of thousands who fled to Turkey last year show no signs of returning

"The relaxation of restrictions in Bulgaria on the rights of the Turkish minority may eventually affect the situation, but we have seen no sign of it so far," said Unal Erkan, the governor of Edime.

Most of the 320,000 ethnic Turks who streamed from Bulgaria to Turkey last summer appear to be watching and waiting to see if Bulgarian officials make good on their promise to end the forced assimilation campaign begun six years ago". by former Bulgarian Communist leader Todor Zhivkov.

Under that campaign, ethnic Turks had to change their Muslim names to Slavic ones and were forbidden to speak Turkish or practise Islamic rites. The new reform government announced on Dec. 29 — although still controversial in Bulgaria — would rescind the policy.

"The separation of Turk and Bulgarian and discrimination against us will never stop," said Firket Gocgeldi, a 34-year-old bus driver who took part in last summer's exodus and now lies in Edirne, a border town in western

TEL AVIV (R) — Czechoslovak

Foreign Ministry officials arrived

in Israel Tuesday for talks on

renewing diplomatic ties cut by

Prague during the 1967 Middle

East war after similar moves by

Israeli officials said the

Czechoslovak delegation, headed

by Foreign Ministry Director for

Middle East Affairs Vazlev Jizd-

ny, was to meet Foreign Minister

Moshe Arens Tuesday evening.

Foreign Minister Gyula Horn was

on the final day of a three-day

stay, the highest-ranking visit to

Israel by an official of the War-

saw Pact states that broke rela-

Romania maintained diplomatic

Minister Miklos Nemeth would

visit Israel in late February, less

than six months after Hungary

became the first East European

full ties with Poland, with Israel

Radio reporting Tuesday that

Israel was also moving towards

would got to Warsaw

country to restore relations.

ties during that period.

Of the Soviet bloc states, only

Horn said Monday Prime

tions in 1967.

The visit came as Hungarian

Hungary and Poland.

Czech delegation in

Israel to discuss ties

Edirne was nearly deserted, with only a family of four waiting to

It was a far cry from the scene last summer, when cars packed with possessions jammed the border gate after the Bulgarian government provided passports following bloody demonstrations for minority rights in May.

About 4,000 people were entering Turkey daily until the government in Ankara imposed a visa requirement in August to stem the tide. Thousands of ethnic Turks subsequently returned to their native land, citing a lack of housing and jobs in Turkey and separation from family members who had to wait a long time for visas.

By Monday, the returnees numbered 96.500, border officials said. But, they added, only about 100 were returning daily, compared with a 1,000 a month ago, and about 50 ethnic Turks were still coming in each day.

At the train station in Edime. 20 ethnic Turks, most of them elderly, were waiting for the train to Bulgaria.

This is no place for older people. I cannot enter any job, I am only free to enter the mosque," said Kadir Mehmet, 60.

Some said they were encouraged by the new Bulgarian government's reversal of the assimilation policy. Bulgarian authorities have promised to allow The Kapikule border gate in the minority of 1.5 million to use

next month to sign an agreement

The Israeli foreign ministry de-

clined to confirm or deny the

report, but Poland said Monday it

expected relations to be restored

East Germany has also ex-

pressed willingness to establish

Israel has yet to respond.

on resumption of relations.

in late February.

to holocaust survivors.

their Muslim names and Turkish language and to practice Islam The policy change, however, has prompted protests and work stoppages in the country of nine million. The demonstrations are led by members of Bulgaria's Slavic majority suspicious of the loyalties of the ethnic Turks.

Since last summer, the immigrants have become settled in Turkey. In Edirne, the ethnic Turks have been moved from tents to small, prefabricated houses set up on a treeless, windswept lot. Despite the harsh living conditions, they appear determined to

The rest of the immigrants have disperesed throughout Turkey, with about one-fourth of the group settling in the western city of Bursa and the second-largest group going to Istanbul. Mehemet Erturk, a leader of

the emigrant community in Bursa, said in a telephone interview that most ethnic Turks there did not believe the Bulgarian promises for the return of their ethnic and religious rights.

"This is only for show, people here believe," he said. "Also, those who could not manage here are gone and the rest are pretty well settled."

A retired professor of Balkan studies in Instanbul, Salih Baklaci, said: "As long as the Communists are in power (in Bulgaria), we will never fully get back our rights."

France resumes grain shipments to Libya

relations for the first time with Israel, including accepting a share PARIS (R) — France has reof responsibility for Germany's sumed grain shipments to Nazi past and paying reparations Libya in a sign of easing tension between the two countries, government sources said

A French Foreign Ministry

spokesman said telex links be-

tween France and Libya were

now functioning normally but

telephone communications

the two countries, which have

never been good, worsened in

November when Qadhafi ac-

cused President François Mit-

terrand of oppressing Muslim

Shortly after France re-

voked a decision to deliver

three Mirage fighter planes to

The planes have been held

back since 1986, when the

European Community im-

posed sanctions against Libya

because of its alleged involve-

Telephone and telex links

were severed on Dec. 7, a day

after direct traffic between

French and Libyan ports was

dised a French sale of 40,000

tonnes of barley worth 50 mil-

A first shipment of the bar-

ley was delivered in late De-

cember, a grain trader said.

lion francs (\$9 million).

The Libyan move jeopar-

ment in terrorism.

suspended.

Political relations between

were still cut.

immigrants.

Libva.

Monday. Israel has worked hardest at restoring ties with the Soviet Un-Colonel Muammar Oadhaion, home to the largest group of fi's government severed ship-Jews outside the United States ping and comunications links with France in early December and Israel. The two countries have exin protest against Paris's imchanged consular delegations but migration policies and its rethere is still no official discussion luctance to deliver three Mirage fighter planes held in

on full ties. France since 1986. However, while the East Euro-"It's my understanding that pean visits to Israel were under-

way, Israeli Science Minister Ezer Weizman was in Moscow this week on the highest-level visit since the Soviet Union orchestrated the cut in diplomatic

Iran says international drug syndicate smashed

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian antinarcotics agents smashed an international drug-trafficking ring in the country's western Bakhtaran province, and arrested 14 smugglers with a small cache of arms, Tehran Radio reported Monday.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said the network had been active in a number of countries, including Turkey, which borders Bakhtaran.

The detained ring members admitted to smuggling more than 7,000 kilogrammes of opium and 800 kilogrammes of morphine, the radio said.

It added that efforts were underway to arrest other ring leaders still at large.

The Islamic Republic News Agency, also monitored in Nicosia, reported Monday that about 1,500 kilogrammes of narcotics were seized from drug traffickers in the past ten days.

IRNA quoted an unidentified official of the Islamic Revolution's Committee, Iran's main law enforcement agency, as saying that 60 drug smugglers had been arrested in connection with the seiznres.

Possession of even small quantities of drugs with intent to sell carries a mandatory death sentence under Iranian law.

Official media reports have said more than 1,000 convicts were hanged in Iran last year for drug-related offences. But opposition and other inde-

pendent groups maintain that many political prisoners were among those executed. More than 50,000 drug addicts

throughout the country have been sent to hard labour camps or are imprisoned. IRNA reported the committee

official as saying that of the 50,000 addicts 19,000 were addicted to heroin.



Families of ICRC hostages appeal for their freedom

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The visiting families of two kidnapped Swiss relief workers have appealed to their captors to "unlock your prison doors immediately" and set free their loved ones.

Atlantic coast near the rich oyster lagoon of

Elio Erriquez and Emmanuel Christen worked as orthopedic technicians at an International Committee for the Red Cross (Icre) clinic in South Lebanon's port city of Sidon 40 kilometres south of Beirut where they were kidnapped last Oct. 6.

"I appeal to you to unlock the door and allow them to come freely from sidon to beirut," Mrs. Marianne Christen said.

"I would like to tell my son how much we miss him and are looking forward to seeing him back among us," she added. "I appeal to their captors to

release them immediately because their seizure is harming thousands of people in need of their assistance," said Mrs. Graziella erriquez. The Sidon orthopedic centre

was closed down immediately after their kidnapping. Mrs. Christen said the families came to Beirut "to see the place

Elio and Emmanuel loved and lived in for the last two years and to meet the people who are doing their best to ensure their safe

Elio's twin sister Marie said

LONDON (AP) — British Mus-

lims have begun a weeklong vigil

outside the headquarters of Vik-

ing Penguin, publisher of "The

Satanic Verses," while organisers

appeared to distance themselves

from the death threat against

announce the vigil, Mugharam Al

Ghamdi, chairman of the U.K.

Action Committee on Islamic

Affairs, said the demonstration

was a reminder that the affair.

begun with the book's publication

in September 1988, was not over.

Verses" blasphemes Islam by

associating the Prophet Moham-

mad with prostitutes and suggest-

ing the Koran was the Prophet's

invention, not the work of God.

On Feb. 14, 1989, the late Iranian

leader Ayatollah Ruhollah

Khomeini issued a religious edict

calling on Muslims to kill

42-year-old Indian-born writer

into hiding and two Iranian cler-

ics offered a bounty of \$5.2 mil-

Khomeini's action drove the

Rushdie.

Muslims say "The Satanic

At a news conference to

author Salman Rushdie.

that "if Elio and Emmanuel can hear us. I want them to be courageous because they have lots of friends here and in Switzerland who have shown their support against this injus-

The families were accompanied by Christophe Marnish, the ICRC official responsible for the Middle East desk, and Angelo Gnaedeinger, general delegate for the Middle East and North Africa.

They held a one-hour press conference at the seaside Summerland hotel in west Beirut. They displayed a petition calling for the two men's release, bearing 70,000 signatures col-

lected by Swiss newspapers and a

special support committee for the hostages. Michel Dufour, head of the all-Swiss 29-member delegation in Lebanon, said more than 50,000 letters of sympathy had been received by the local delega-

Dufour said the letters would be taken by the families back to Switzerland to "show Lebanese concern and consciousness towards our colleagues."

No group has claimed responsibility for kidnapping Christen. 32, and Erriquez, 23. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Sidon police say the pair are held by the Fatah Re-

protest against Rushdie book

"Since the sensationalism has

receded, what remains is a

genuine and permanent bitter-

ness in the hearts and minds of

ordinary Muslims," Ghamdi said.

bitterness would increase if the

book were not withdrawn and

other demands met, he and the

U.K. Action Committee did not

Muslims in Britain to keep within

the limits of the law," said Iqbal

Saraceni, a convener of the com-

mittee. "We will not condone any

The U.K. Action Committee.

"It is naive to think that the

however, refused to condemn the

world's one billion Muslims will

not do anything or say anything

to such vilifying insults,' Ghandi

ing Penguin. A police officer is on

24-hour duty outside and three

security guards now watch over

the headquarter's plush, entrance

Threats also were made to Vik-

"We appeal all the time to

support the death threat.

overstepping of the law."

death threat.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Although he warned that the

lion for Rushdie's death.

volutionary Council, a breakaway guerrilla group led by Abu Nidal responsibility.

among 18 westerners held hostage in Lebanon. The others are eight Americans, four Britons, two West Germans, an Irishman and an Italian.

He said the ICRC also contacted the Swiss government but it was not involved in any negotiations.

 Colleagues of the hostages and a group of Lebanese handicapped also appealed for Christen and Erriquez to be freed "so that they could resume their humanitarian work in the country."

The organisation has denied any

Christen and Erriquez are

The longest-held is U.S. journalist Terry A. Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press. He was kidnapned March 16, 1985.

Hanisch, who attended the news conference at the Summerland hotel with the families, said ICRC officials had made several high-level contacts with Arab officials to try to get the hostages

the region and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, whom ICRC officials met twice, told the humanitarian organisation they would do all they could to gain the captives' freedom.

He said several governments in

TO Agriculture | British Muslims on week-long

hall, with its X-ray machine of the

kind used for luggage at airports.

Gregory said there was no con-

nection between the Muslim's

vigil and publication of a paper-

back edition of "The Satanic

lication of the paperback," Greg-

ory said. "From that you cannot

assume that a paperback version

will be published or will not be

Ghamdi said Britain's 1.5 mil-

lion Muslims want "the Satanic

Verses" withdrawn from publica-

tion and Britain's blasphemy laws

changed to incorporate other reli-

from across Britain will wear

green plastic vests emblazoned

with "British Muslims" in white

lettering and hold handmade

signs proclaiming "No Rushdie

places," and "Put honour back

on the agenda," outside the

Kensington, West London, Pen-

"Hypocrisy in high

For the next five days, Muslims

gions besides Christianity.

"There is no date set for pub-

Verses."

published."

guin offices.

Publisher's spokesman Bob

ernment in parliament and press his downfall last month. ing by the nation," he said in a

Tehran Radio, monitored in "Any act or word which weakens the people's trust in these powers and undermines

their support in the least is (forbidden on religious grounds) and a national treason.

Foreign Minister Ali Akbar

No cut in U.S. aid to Israel, senator says

TEL AVIV (Agencies) - U.S. Committee, said the proje Senator Pete Wilson said Monday he foresaw no cut of Israeli military aid as a result of the easing of cold war tensions and tougher Soviet attitude about arms sales

to Arab countries. The Republican lawmaker. who is a candidate in the California gubernatorial race said there was a "little less generosity" on the part of the Soviets in offering discounts but no clear sign of a reduction in the level of arms

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, he said, "may be less willing that his predecessors to be involved in support of Arab states, but there doesn't seem to be any reduction in military sales."

He said the United States still needed its strategic relationship with Israel, which receives \$3 billion a year in U.S. grants, including \$1.8 billion for military

"I don't think... it yet indicates any change of circumstances that would warrant a reductin of... our foreign assistance for Israel either in military or domestic (economic) aid," said Wilson.

"I don't think it will be right for the (strategic) relationship to be abandoned. I think it needs to be strengthened and expanded," he

Wilson, who met Monday with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and toured Israel aircraft industries, strongly edurosed the joint U.S.-Israel effort to develop the Arrow missile, a Star Wars project for an anti-missile defence

The \$60 million-a-year- project, which will need U.S. approval to proceed towards a production phase, was needed primarily because of the spread of missile capabilities throughout the Middle East," he said.

Wilson, the senior Republican on the Senate Armed Forces

which he helped to miniate getting somewhere and is abely

of schedule." He declined to say if the and missile was nearing a test firm but said that deployment was so years away.

The project could be dangered by cuts made to ker ker the U.S. deficit in line. "To question is whether follow-on wi be supported. I think it will be should be. I will support it stror ly," he said.

Wilson said there was no constant sion of support for Israel in Co gress as a result of Israel's hand ling of the two-year Palestinic

But he accused the U.S. med of adopting a pro-Palestinic

"I think the American public. has probably been disconcerto by the television network news particular." he said. "Do I this there is a pro-Palestinian bias the media? Yes, I think there is As an example, he said, telev

sion reports on the uprising faile to note that Palestinian protes "are not spontaneous rock" throwing by schoolboys be3 orchestrated by the Palestine L beration Organisation. (PLO). The senator distributed a doci

ment accusing the PLO of trying to "manipulate and sacrifice" the youth of the occupied West Ban and Gaza Strip to "damage" Israel's image.

"The PLO and its sponsor seek to exploit the intifada, escantalia lating violence and seeking to provoke an IDF (Israel defenc force) reaction of excessive force, for the benefit of American TV network news and ences," he said. Wilson, 56, on his fourth visite was

to Israel, said withdrawing to Israel's "pre-1967 borders" would leave the Jewish statuties"

"dangerously vulnerable." "dangerously vulnerable."

Iran leader bans attacks on regime last week over the Ceausescutter

NICOSIA (R) — Supreme Iraman leader Avatollah Ali Khamenei has banned malicious criticism of government officials as sinful and seditions. Khamenei's injunction fol-

for hosting Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescn on the eve of executive, the judiciary and the legislature is their decisive back-

statement read Monday on

Velayati was grilled in parliament

the ministry as blows to men in the front lines of Iran's diploma tic war against a hostile world. More than 200 legislators there and a lowed sharp criticism of the govwrote him an open letter, renew ing their allegiance to his position as supreme leader.

"Of course parliament should it in "The key to the success of the carry out its duties," Khameney, replied. "But both the deputies and the people are able to differentiate between actions stem ming from legal duties and from personal and political interpersonal and political inten-

Khamenei decried attacks on

Hardiners have also criticise MATI the economic policies of President dent Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsan jani, saying a greater role for the

private sector and foreign bonder its; rowing threatened revolutionary principles of social justice and in independence.

Most traditional Wester

president dismisses Somali cabinet ahead of reshuffle country's economic and societies MOGADISHU (R) — Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre problems."

has dismissed his government ahead of a cabinet reshuffle. state-run radio Mogadishu said Tuesday. The radio quoted a brief statement from the presidency as

saying a new government would be formed as soon as possible. The presidential statement gave no reason for the aging strongman's decision to sack his

Last Friday Ogaal, the official newspaper of the ruling Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party, called for the government to be dismisse "for failing to tackle the

entire cabinet.

donors have suspended econoge that an aid to Somalia, riven by civil was a different in protest against human right "Topics abuses by government security forces and rampant comuption the administration. Siad Barre has promised to re

tore multi-party democracy at hold fresh parliamentary electrical bold fresh parliamentary electrical by the end of 1000 tions by the end of 1990.

Generally believed to be in like that he late 70s or 80s, Siad Barre has not of announced any plans for his or the or retirement after seizing power of the or a 1969 coup.

MARKET PRICES

Banana (Mukammar) 400 / 350

Benghazi (LN)
Kuwait (KU)
Dhahrau (TK)
Sanza (LH)

Karachi (PK) & Rydy

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30	Koran
15:40	Programme review
	Chikiren's programme
17:39	Educational programme
18:00	News summery in Arabic
18:45	Cairo news message
12:36	Local programme
29:00	News in Acabic
20:30	Arabic series
	Arabic programme
	News in Arabic
	Play "Petra"
PROGRAMM	E TWO
18:00	Documentary
15:00	News in French

PRAYER THES

19:30 News in Hebrew

20:00 News in Arabic

20:30 Baby Boom

21:16 Heart of the Matter

22:00 News in English

22:20Fizal Days

······ Varieties

65:09 Fair 06:31 (Sunrise) Duña 18:19 Kha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swelfieb. Tel. 810740 Assemblies of God Church, Tel. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Amanciation Tel. De la Saile Church Tel. 661757 Terracente Church Tci: 622366 Church of the Assunciation Tel. 623541. Anglices Church Tel. 625383, Tel. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. St. Ephraim Church Tcl. 771751. Ammen International Church Tel. 685326. Evangelical Lutherms Church Tel: 811295. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of

It will be partly cloudy with a chance for scattered local showers and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In

Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932.

AMMAN:

Dr. Issue Al Salch Al Sharaa' phantiney (985238) Anaba, winds will be northerly moder-

Jordan Valley Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 9, Aqaba 17. Hamidity readings: Amman 60 per cent, Aqaba 42 per

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

Dr. Ahmad Al Natour 653934 Dr. less Haddad 897007 Dr. Arafat Al Ashhab 602507 Dr. Ahmad Othman 786384 Ferdows pharmacy 778336 Natroukh phermacy 623672 Al Selem pharmacy 636730 Yacoub phasmacy 644945

EMERGENCIES Civil Defence Department Civil Defence Immediate

Rescoe...... 630341 Civil Defence Emergency 199 Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777 Fire Brigade 891228 Blood Bank Highway Police 843402 Traffic Police 896390 Water and Sewerage Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121 Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101 Abdaii Telephone Repairs 661101

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615

Electric Power

RJ Flight Information/..... Queco Alia Intl. Airport..... 08-53200 HOSPITALS

Hassein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ... 644281/6 Akileh Maternity, J. Amn.... 642441/2 Jabal Amman Maternity...... 642362 Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shareisani 664171/4
Shareisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845 Al-Mussber Hospital 667227/9 The Islamic, Abdali Al-Ahli, Abdali Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101/3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/26 Zaroa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 Zaroa National Hospital ... (09)991071 Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732 Princess Basera Hospital ... (02)27555

Greck Cathoric Hospital (02)272275

Ibn Al Nafec's Hospital (02)247100

Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

AOABA:

FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information depur-

Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified. ARXIVALS. Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) 69:18Joddah (RJ) 99:15 Ageba (RJ)

ment at the Queen Alia International

10:00 Dinbui, Abu Dinbi (RJ).
Dinbuan, Knwait (RJ) 19:15 Largecs (RJ) 16:45 Cairo (RI) 17:00 Riyadi (RJ) 17:00 Kirwait (add.) (RJ 17:20 Brossels, Paris (RJ Other Flights (Terminal 2)

48:35 Dubei (AZ) 10:00 Beginted (IA) 10:05 Cairo (MS) 10:19 Joiden (SV)

..... Seus's, Jeddah (IY 20:20 Damascus (PK) 21:20 Paris, Damascus (AF) DEPARTURES

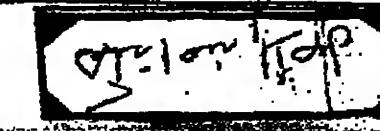
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) 11:15 Rome (add.) (RI)

11:20 Tunis, Casablenca (RI) 11:30 Riyach (RI) 13:40 London (RJ) 11:45 Amsterdam, New York (RJ) 12:00 Kuwait (add.) (RJ 12:45 Cairo (RJ) 19:36 Damascus (RI) 19:40 Knwast, Dhahran (RI) 19:45 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RI) 20:10 New Della (RI) 21:15 Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

66:15 London (BA) 66:35 Larence, Zurich (SR) 19:35 Rome (AZ) 11:46 Bagbdad (IA) 13:15 Jeddah, Sana'a (IV)

100 / 50 200 / 150 Letion Onion (dry) Oceange (Shamoun) 320 / 290



Housing ministers to discuss

cooperation AMMAN (J.T.) - Ministers of public works and boosing in the

four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) are due to open a meeting here Wednesday to discomperation among the four countries based on a joint report by a technical team that met Sunday and Monday.

The technical team pooled together reports by technical committees working on consulting in the four-member states, matters related to housing, unifying laws and legislations, training, unified specifications and standards for construction operations and other related topics.

Egyptian Minister of Reconstruction and Housing Hasabellab Kafrawi, who arrived in Amman Tuesday to take part in the meeting, said in a statement that Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen were trying to pool their resources in one of the most important sectors leading to economic development.

The housing sector is considered as one of the main foci of the ACC which was set up last February to pave the ground for full integration among the four states, Kafrawi said.

He said apart from means of boosting cooperator in housing and public works and construction, the four ministers will focus Attention on the establishment of a joint data bank to help the four

states in this process. Meanwhile, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Toesday that the preparatory meeting conducted by technical committees had prepared the topics to be discussed at Wednesday's ministerial conference.

Defeated candidates lose appeal

By Mariem M. Shehin Joedan Titoes Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Two contesting candidates from the Ajloun district, who ran for seats in the Lower House of Partiament in the Nov. 8 elections, have lost their case with the Parliamentary Appeals Committee, deputy and appeals committee member Paris Nebusi confirmed Tuesday.

"The consessants Najib Hiras Haddad and Farrah Musa Rabbed could not provide sufficient evidence to prove that their defeat to Ailous puritsmentarias Jamai Haddad was in any way a mistake or miscal-culation," Nabulai said.

Another committee member commented that "We should not be talking about this until it goes to the speaker of the House and the House votes to agree on our decision," Deputy Nayef Hadid, head of the appeals committee told the Jordan Times. This Thursday we will study the case of candidate Abu Akhu Irsheideh, who is contesting the seat he lost to Doputy Nawaf Khawaldeh of Mafraq district," Hadid added.

While Hadid said that the House must first approve the committee's decision to dismiss the complaints of the two Ajloun candidates, Nabulsi said, "we made the decision already, the House will not

vote on it again."

The appeals committee has heard the testimonies of the two contestants as well as talked to the responsible personnel in the Ailoun district. "We even went as far as bringing over the voting boxes and looked at the voting cards. We allowed Deputy Jamai Haddad to speak on his behalf as well, it was all very democratic and proper. Our job has ended, we have made our decision, Hadid said.

The Ajloun candidates had charged that errors in counting or administrative errors such as a misspelling of names had resulted in their loss in the Nov. 8 elections.

Clean-up campaign for airport road on the way

By EHa Nasrallah Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN - A recited Jordanian army officer and writer will lead a campaign Thursday to clean up the highway to the Queen Alia International Airport and beyond, a distance of a) kilometres.

Arrian Ramadan told the Jordan Times that the Ministry of Tourism, which will finance the campaign, will provide at least six small pick-up trucks and 12 workers for the job expected to last one whole day. Actually the campaign is to cover the whole highway extending from Ammaa to the port city of Aqaba, along the desert highway, but this is to be carried out in stages, Ramadan said.

dan's tourist attractions abroad.

Ministry of Tourism will cooper-

are with the various tourist offices

and tour operators in publishing

brochures and posters, tourist

documentary films and television

programmes designed to promote

"This work will be conducted

in cooperation with Royal Jorda-

mian (RJ), and tourist hotels

which will be bringing in tourist

Kabariti said that the Ministry

of Tourism is in the process of

working out a legal framework

Jordan's touristic sites.

groups," he said.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

SUDAN PROTOCOL APPROVED: The cabinet meeting Tues-

day, under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Modar Badran,

approved the trade protocol signed between Jordan and Sudan.

The cabinet also approved the extension of the membership period

of the representatives of the government and public institutions at

QASEM MEETS U.S. GROUP: Deputy Prime Minister and

Foreign Minister Marwan Ai Qasem Tuesday met with a group

representing the World Affairs Council in the United States.

Discussion focused on the Arab-Israeli conflict and other Middle

HOUSE MEETINGS: Lower House of Parliament Speaker

Sulciman Arar has called members of House committees in charge

of public freedoms, citizens rights, education, the occupied territor-

ies, the badia and rural regions, and environmental health for a

meeting Wednesday. They are to elect chairmen and rapporteurs

JORDAN-ITALY TOURISM: Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim

Al Kabariti met in his office Tuesday with Italian Ambassador to

Jordan Francesco de Curten to discuss Jordanian-Italian coopera-

tion in tomism and restoration of archaeological sites as well as

JORDAN-SAUDI LABOUR TALKS: Minister of Labour

Oaseem Obeidat Tuesday met Saudi Arabian ambassador to

Jordan Sheikh Mohammad Fahd Ai Issa and discussed labour-

related affairs of concern to Jordan and Sandi Arabia. Discussion

focused on the condition of Jordanian workers now employed in

Correction

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and

the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed

EXHIBITIONS

An exhibition emitted "They chose 30 poets" at the French

Ar art exhibition by Irish artist Conel McIntyre at the British

An exhibition of artificial flowers at the Yarmonk University.

PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting in which parliament member Dr. Almad

Oweidi Al Abbadi will address the public on some of the

problems that citizens face, at the International Anto Centre-

time and place with the concerned institutions.

Benevolent Society, headed by

Inaya Khalil, since its estab-

lishment five years ago. Since

that time also, Catholic Relief

Services has been providing

training, managerial and capit-

al assistance, The Noor Al

Hussein Foundation's market-

ing assistance began in Octo-

ber, 1988.

Saudi Arabian businesses and organisations (Petra).

organising visits to Jordan by Italian tourist groups (Petra).

the Jordanian Industrial Estates Corporation (Petra).

for their respective committees (Petra).

A press release issued by the

Noor Al Hussein Foundation

was mistakenly quoted by the

Jordan Times. The newspaper

article Tuesday stated that the

Jerash Handicraft Centre was-

initiated by the Noor Al Hus-

sein Foundation. In fact, the

centre has been under the

direction of the Jerash Ladies

Cultural Centre:

Council.

5:30 p.m.

The minister said this year the

Tourism increases by 4.8 per cent over 1989 private sector especially in conducting campaigns to market Jos-

AMMAN (J.T.) - Jordan was visited by 609,000 Arab and foreign tourists from various parts of the world in the first 11 months of 1989, registering an increase of 4.8 per cent over the number of visitors in 1988, Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Ai Kabariti said

Tuesday. Nearly 71.5 per cent of the total number of visitors last year came from Arab countries, while 19.3 per cent came from Europe, 7.5 per cent from America and 1.7 per cent came from other countries like Japan. Australia and New Zealand, the minister said at a meeting with representatives of tourist offices in Jordan. Kabariti reviewed cooperation for the implementation of the between the ministry and the programme.

East issues (Petra).

ably cost less than previous campaigns Ramadan organised in the Dead Sea-Swemeh region and the Muwaqqar-Azrag highway.

Ramadan said that the cleaning campaigns are not only intended to keep Jordan clean and protect the environment but also to reflect a positive image about Jordan to foreign tourists coming to the Kingdom.

Thursday's stage is expected

to cost JD 150 but will prob-

Last winter Ramadan led the campaign from Muwaggar to Azraq, northeast of Amman, a distance of 100 kilometres, collecting nearly 30 tonnes of garbage. "That campaign took four whole days to complete and was carried out in stages," Ramadan said.

Referring to the Dead Sea-Swemeh campaign, also carried out in the winter, he said that a lot of waste materials were collected since the area is visited by people in the winter leaving behind a lot of garbage and waste. "In fact, the idea of cleaning

to Jordan was the brainchild of Her Majesty Queen Noor who took part in a campaign to

clean the Jordan Valley's vacation spots," Ramadan said. "] was also commended by His Majesty King Hussein on my earlier campaigns to make Jordan clean," he added.

Ramadan said the waste is collected at a dumping ground along the way and parts of it is burnt while others are just kept and later buried.

Ramadan said he was encouraged to carry out the cleanliness campaigns on a voluntary basis when he approached government ministries asking for belp and received favourable response.

He said that once when he was bunting in Jordan, he came upon garbage in huge quantities which marred the landscape and reflected a negative impression about the country. This prompted his later campaigns. Ramadan has written several

books published in Jordan including "The Jordanian Deserts" about the ancient castles there and Palestinian and Jordanian Heritage." He said he is now writing a

book entitled "Birds of Jor-"Planting sugar cane is simple dan", about 165 species of



Prime Minister Moder Badran and Deputy Shelkh Abdai Mun'em Abu Zant look over parliament papers. Abu Zant did not give the prime minister's government a vote of confidence in the 3-day confidence session last week.

Badran thanks public for their support

Artists, musicians brief prime minister

the Jordanian artists and musicians federations was presented Tuesday to Prime Minister Mudar Badran at a meeting held in his office and attended by Minister of Culture Khaled Al Karaki and members of the two federations.

Nearly 70 per cent of children's television series in the Arab country is also the location for many Arabic television series involving Arab and Jordanian artists and actors, the prime Badran paid tribute to the two

federations' efforts and said that the government will provide all them to achieve their goals. Special attention, however,

should be given to Jordanian culture and beritage which could be reflected in local artistic work and

AMMAN (Petra) — An outline conveyed to the outside world, of the work and programme of the prime minister said.

Badran also Tu-sday received delegations representing various public sector groups. They congratulated him on his new posi-

Less visits

Later the prime minister issued World is produced in Jordan. The a statement intended to curb visits by delegations to the Prime Ministry to offer congratulations. He said in the statement that he was grateful to the public for their minister was told at the meeting. overwhelming support but he said that the government must to be given the chance to conduct its business, and the prime minister forms of cooperation to enable must have time to visit various institutions and departments to follow up on work and "fulfil the government's programme as contained in its policy statement to

Farmers successfully cultivate sugar cane

DEIR ALLA (J.T.) — Two requires great quantities of water Jordanian farmers have successfully cultivated sugar cane on 20 dunums of land in the Deir Alla district of the Jordan Valley and sold their output in the local market, according to a report by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Diyab Al Rabie and George Sido planted the sugar cane in October of 1988 and have just harvested their product and sold it to local food processing industries. They collected JD 350 for each dunum of land, Petra said.

Divab said in a statement following the success of the new agricultural project that he imported the saplings from Egypt and planted them in deeply ploughed fields which were fertilised and irrigated continually around the year.

compared to other plants, but the disadvantage is that sugar cane to grow and yield a good profit, Divab said.

Director of the Agricultural Department in the region Mazen Khasawach said that the Jordan Valley soil was quite suitable for growing sugar cane, beetroot and rice, and his department was encouraging local farmers to diversify their crops.

He said the local market needs sugar cane, but the disadvantage is the plant requires a great deal of irrigation.

Khasawneh pointed out that beetroots are even better suited to the Jordan Valley than sugar cane since the plant requires less water and yields 17 per cent sugar compared to seven per cent from the sugar cane.

The Deir Alla region is one of the most heavily cultivated areas in Jordan

Embroidery: A proud heritage, financial support for the family

AMMAN (J.T.) - For hundreds of years Palestinian women have practiced the art of embroidery, stitching complex and intricate patterns which are unique to their villages and passed down from generation to generation. The women carried this heritage with them from their homes in Bait Dajan, Doura, Safriyeh, and other villages to new communities to the east of the Jordan River during the exodus of Palestinians into Jordan during the 1948 and 1967 wars. Two of these refugee communities, Mahatta and Natheef, are the locus of a Save the Children women's health and income generation project currently employing

more than 300 women. In the past women embroidered traditional patterns on panels of fabric for the vokes, sleeves, and skirts of their dresses, as well as on pillows for their homes. Capitalising on the panel methodology traditionally used, Save the Children designers reasoned that an embroidered panel might as well be worked into quilts, or tote bags to appeal to larger markets and sell at higher prices per the amount of handwork required. Today with grant assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in cooperation with the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and the Ministry of Social Development, Save the Children is helping the women of Mahatta and Natheef to develop profitable, market oriented businesses that produce eight hand crafted products, deliver frozen appetisers to local supermarkets, and make pure. olive oil soap.

The quilts, which may be ordered with matching pillows in a range of colours and designs, have been selling well at the Bridal Chest at Kan Zaman, where craft workshops and a traditional restaurant are housed under the vaulted arches of a restored rural village. Marketed under the Jordan River Designs logo, the Palestinian quilts coordinate with the Bani Hamida carpets woven by Bedowin women working with Save the Children's first home-based and also USAID-supported income generation project. With sales increasing and more women interested in work with the project, Save the Children recruited John Wrightson, an International Executive Service Corps (IESC) volunteer to consult on improving production techniques, assessing marketing strategies, and strengthening administrative procedures such as inventory control and cost accounting. Prior to his retirement, Wrightson founded and managed two mutli-million dollar quilt making businesses in the north-eastern United States.

During two months' work with the project, Wrightson personally helped to build fabric storage bins at the Natheef centre and has recommended that raw materials inventory be kept to around 25 per cent of projected annual production. His advice to reduce the amount of stuffing material in the quilts has been implemented with the result that the quilts are lighter — more comfortable in this climate, and easier to handle and to clean. Using less filling also reduces the cost of production.

For exporting to the United States, Wrightson suggested Jordan River Designs seek an arrangement with a U.S. firm whereby quilt tops are shipped and the filling and quilting done by the U.S. firm after arrival. This reduces the weight and space requirements for export and facilitates compliance with U.S. regulations for filling materials. Wrightson supervised the first production in Jordan of his design, the snug sack, which is being widely advertised as a way to keep warm in chilly houses. Just one week after the product's introduction at the American Women's Bazaar. Save the Children received a large order from Safeway which will be marketing the snug sack regionally. The snug sack is also popular with quilting project employees who are entitled to

discount prices. The project will try out a .home-based marketing strategy. Wrightson proposed under which a hostess invites friends and family to her home for a 'party' that combines hospitality with sales. Guests see the merchandise displayed and may purchase or order items if they wish. The hostess earns a commission on the sales.

purchase them at employee

Samira Othman, who manages the quilt making activity. reports that in addition to doubling the income of some of the families, the project is making a contribution to community and family relationships. Women who had never worked for pay before are providing a major share of their family's income, and more women ask for work each week. The women take turns caring for each other's children and working on the quilt project, while other family members assist with household tasks. The embroidery work and the stitching of the quit pieces is done, to order, by women in thier homes. The women then bring the finished quilt top to the project centre where it can be spread flat on large tables and friends can assist one another with stuffing and quilting. In Mahatta the quilt makers have been asked to make a presentation about their work to local school children. The quilt making project

provides part time employment for 50 women in Natheef and for 16 women in Mahatta. In both communities it's easy to see the most important aspect of the project's success.

Teeming refugee camp threatened by major healthcare problems

By Sa'eda Kilani Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Thousands of families at Baqa'a camp still suffer from lack of basic health provisions. The economic and financial difficulties facing the country, coupled with increasing demand for health services in the teeming refugee camp ontride Amman, pose a major problem for authorities to cope with a situation further aggravated by the rapid rise in the shantytown's population. The problem is slowly building, threatening thousands.

Approximately 8 o'clock on any typical day, the line at the medical health centre at Baqa'a camp starts to take shape until it swells to hundreds by 10 o'clock. Noises and childrens' cries overwhelm the narrow. corridors leading to the doctors' rooms, causing a tumultuous uproar.

Outside, hundreds more sit on the rocks' edges waiting for their relatives; some others seize the chance of permanent overflow of patients at the overcrowded centre with its permanent overflow of patients and take the spot as a convenient market to sell the simple stuff they could afford.

patients every day.

is estimated at more than 110,000 of which 67,000 are registered as refugees with UNRWA; meaning that they are entitled to UNRWA medical services.



proper drainage system (File photo)

gnant women. Mohammad Hassan Waheed, a camp resident who works as a teacher in the Jordan Valley, complains about

Mondays and Wednesdays.

"Consequently," he con-

tinued, "I took him to a private

clinic... and you know how

expensive private clinics are."

clearly aimed at reducing the

number of patients at the cen-

tre at any given day, Waheed's

complaint is that his child was

in "miserable condition" and

needed emergency treatment,

and as such the centre should

have standby arrangements for

such cases. But, it would

appear that the centre, already

strained under the burden of

the financial and administra-

tive load, is in no position to do

Unfortunately, there is no

choice for Baga'a patients who

suffer from serious illness or

for emergency cases but to go

to a hospital at Salt, 38

kilometres from the camp —

which is considered as the

nearest since there is none at

the camp for the time being.

Baga'a is about 20 kilometres

Hopes that the camp will

north of Amman.

While the rotation system is

the functioning and procedures of the present system. "One Sunday, I took my child to the medical centre, but they refused to accept the case on the grounds that Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays are only for pregnant women. The Baqa'a Centre was They said children would be attended to only on Saturdays,

established by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian Refugees and is operated by five doctors, 18 nurses, and one dentist. This limited number of staff provides health services, including maternal and child care, for an average of 1,100

A sub-centre has also been set up by UNRWA in the southern area of the camp due to the perennial overflow of patients at the main centre, but it is obvious that the entire set up is too inadequate to meet the needs of the camp's resi-

The population of the camp

Despite extensive efforts exerted by UNRWA, the services available are far short of what is the minimum acceptable by any standards, particularly those related to child care and health facilities for pre-

have its own hospital are in the horizon but initial enthusiasm seems to have waned. The Baga'a camp zakat committee. sponsored by various private institutions and benevolent contributors, launched a fundraising campaign for the proposed hospital, but the project is finding little progress because of insufficient financial sup-

"The project will cost at least JD 100,000," explains Dr. Nabeel Al Jabiri at the Charity Medical Centre in Baqa'a camp. "The committee with its inadequate resources is incapable of covering all its expenses, and the completion of the project is dependent upon donors and contributors.

It is expected that another project, sponsored by UN-RWA in cooperation with the Common Services Council at Baqa'a camp, to improve hygiene in the camp will soon materialise. The project involves supplying garbage containers around the camp. At present, there are no such provisions, and the refuse collection is carried out by UN-RWA's sanitation workers, who hig trash in wheelbarrows from next to the houses and disposing it at open dumping sites; insects and worms carrying infectious diseases from outside to the inner parts of the

outcomes. Moving deeper into the camp's inner unpaved roads. one witnesses still another ma-

camp is one of the natural

for problem; that of the exposed canals of waste water and of the deficiency of drainage inside the camp.

Two years ago, the government extended water pipelines for all houses in the camp; however, more than 30 per cent of them could not afford to pay because of the relatively high JD 60 fees for each installation, according to Mohammad Nseirat, a member in Baga'a's services committee.

The government subsequently extended payment facility; each house could pay JD 10 per month for six months. But even then, the response was minimal, and hundreds of houses are still without water connection.

"UNRWA paid the expenses for 600 families (classified as) hardship cases, according to Mohammad Hassan Amairch, one of UN-RWA's school directors. But still the problem continues for thousands of families.

Two women were sitting in one of the camps simous and narrow pathways. Asked whether their houses had water connection, one of them let out a big cry. "You are asking about paying for water connection? My condition is what you see..." she wailed, pointing to her yendor's box. It had some dried up biscuits, cheap chocolates and some odds and ends. Behind her was the door to her house; a home with almost nothing inside.

OBITUARY

With deepest sympathy and great sorrow, i.A.i.. staff in Jordan announces the death of their colleague: James McLean Rae

on New Year's Eve, while on holiday in the United Kingdom.

May his soul rest in peace.

I.A.L. staff Amman - Jordan

HOUSE IN

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Jordan Times

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Cracks in the Israeli hardlinerş

WITH Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat joining the burgeoning Israeli forces calling for direct talks with the PLO and Minister of Science and Technology. Ezer Weizman persisting in demanding negotiations with the PLO as the only sensible and practical thing to do, wide cracks are already occurring in wall of the Israeli opposition to recognising PLO as the only pragmatic interlocutor left to resolve the Palestinian case. And the fact that Shlomo Lahat is still a very important member of the ruling Likud Party and Ezer Weizman was once a formidable part of the Likud constituency makes their change of views and perspectives on the role of the PLO that much more meaningful and relevant. What Lahat and Weizman and all their silent yet growing supporters are saying is that it is in Israel's interest to negotiate with the party that can deliver the Palestinians and make lasting commitments on their behalf. What value is there in any peace agreement that Israel signs if it is not also signed and ratified by the Palestinian Party which has a mandate to do so, and has won the kind of international recognition and legitimacy to make its signature more than ink on paper. Come to think of it, one would have thought that the Israeli establishment would have insisted on the PLO signature as a sine qua non to accepting any peace treaty with the Arab side.

Meanwhile the Palestinian side must persist in upholding its sense of moderation and refrain from falling into the trap of extremism that some of their constituencies are demanding. The future lies in the hands of the mainstream of the PLO and judging by the increase in the Israeli forces calling for talks with it, there is a growing evidence that the PLO is beginning to harvest the fruits of their centrist stance on the national case of the Palestinian people. There is nothing more Shamir and his extremist supporters would like the mainstream PLO to do than to waver on its commitment to strike a reasonable accommodation with Israel based on legitimacy and justice for all. And there is no more effective way to pull the rug from under all those Israeli forces who are calling for compromise and recognition of the Palestinian nationalism than to betray all the investments already made in the cause of moderation and restraint on the Palestinian side.

The Israeli political establishment may not accept the PLO overnight as the principal interlocutor in the process of peace in the Middle East but it is almost a sure thing that in the near future such a dramatic transformation in the Israeli thinking would occur. The main point for the Palestinians' now is to persist and persevere in their determination to wage a policy of moderation in spite of all the temptations to change course in the face of Shamir's stubbornness to meet them half way. The PLO owes it to Israeli leaders the like of Lahat and Weizman to stay on course without ever losing faith or confidence that they are now on the right track that would lead them to victory.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday said Jordan has succeeded to begin the process of settling its foreign debts to various governments' and banks, thanks to the sacrifices of the Jordanian people and their determination to work diligently towards the fulfilment of the heavy commitments. For the past four decades Jodan has been steadfast in the face of Israel's aggression and in confrontation with the various challenges, while at the same time it has been pursuing the course of socio-economic development, the paper noted. It said the country has been helped in its endeavours at all fronts by the rich Arab states of the Gulf; and the Jordanian Armed Forces have been capable of repelling aggression and defending the Arab homeland. For this reason, the paper added, it is hoped that the Gulf Arab states will come to the aid of the Kingdom at the a crucial moment as the Jordanians are struggling to maintain the defence of the homeland and to meet their obligation and commitments to other countries. As the representatives of the Jordanian people opening a debate in parliament over the 1990 fiscal budget, Jordanians are looking to their brothers in the Gulf state to rally to the spport of the Kingdom and extend all possible assistance which can enable the Jordanian people and their armed forces to stand fast in the face of external

Al Dustour daily commented on an Arab League meeting in Tunis to assess the impact of the on-going changes in Eastern Europe on the Eastern Bloc's relations with the Arab Word. The paper said that the deep changes in the Eastern Bloc are being exploited fully by Israel to serve its own interests, while the Arabs are losing their friends in Eastern Europe one by one. It is indeed a pity to see the Arab still lagging far behind Israel and the rest of the world in interacting with the events in Europe, and failing to take a unified stand that would ensure continued cooperation with Europe at all levels, the paper said. The paper said that the Arabs ought to meet, not at the delegates level, but rather at the summit level so that the Arab heads of state can take serious measures that would shape their countries future relations with other nations. The paper expressed hope that the Tunis meeting will pave the way for a summit meeting in view of the seriousness of the situation in Europe and Israel's efforts to cultivate the events to serve its own interests.

Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily commented on a statement by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid in which he hailed the formation of the three Arab economic groupings — the Arab Cooperation Council, the Maghreb Union and the Gulf Cooperatiog Council - and called on the Arabs to extend support for the Palestinian uprising. The paper said that since 1948, the Arabs in general and the Palestinian in particular have been listening to such nice words, but without real action to support the Palestinian people under Israeli rule. The paper said that the Algerian president ought to have called for a summit meeting at which the Arab leaders can charts a plan for liberating the occupied territories and restoring the lands of the Palestinian people.

Bulgarian nationalists turn against opposition on Muslim issue

By Kate Dourian

SOFIA — Bulgaria's crawl towards democracy has stumbled over the thorny issue of the rights of ethnic Turks which has turned some nationalists against opposition leaders trying to free the country from Communism.

Almost overnight, the mushrooming opposition movement found itself sliding in popularity for supporting a Communist Party decision to restore religious and cultural rights to the country's 1.5 million Muslims.

Since last Monday, thousands of Bulgarians full of nationalist fervour have taken to the streets of Sofia and other cities and towns demanding a referendum on the issue and calling for the government to resign for rejecting this proposal.

For now, the struggle for democracy in this mainly-peasant nation of nine million appears forgotten as yesterday's heroes find themselves today's villains.

Constantin Trenchev, leader of the unofficial trade union Podkrepa and tipped for possible leadership in a post-Communist Bulgaria, has been singled out for abuse by nationalists who have branded him a traitor for supporting the Turkish cause.

"Yesterday I was crossing the square and they wanted to hang me because they took me for Mr. Trenchev," said Petar Beron, an opposition leader who, like Trenchev, sports a beard.

He was referring to Sofia's parliament square, which over the past week has become the focal point for the anti-Turkish movement and where Podkrepa

supporters and protesters against Turkish rights came to blows during rival rallies last Thursday.

Only last month, the square was a scene of jubilation for ethnic Turks who wept for joy when told they could have their Muslim names back and practise their religion freely after years of repression under a policy of forced assimilation devised and implemented by ousted hardline leader Todor Zhivkov.

The country's 200,000 Bulgarian Muslims, or Pomaks, were victims of a similar policy in the

But organisers of the anti-Turkish protests, which began in the town of Kurdzhali in the predominantly Turkish populated south east and spread across the country, say they are not opposed to ethnic Turks regaining their rights but reject the way the decision was imposed on the people by the party.

"We are against the decision because it was done in the old way, by diktat, from the Central Committee. We are asking for such issues to be decided in a democratic way," said Stoiko Stovanov, a member of a Kurdzhali committee that has led the calls for a referendum.

Ironically it is the unprecedented freedom allowed under the reformist Communist leadership of Petar Mladenov which has let people express their grievances undeterred by police.

Some members of Podkrepa, which last week said it had doubled its membership to 100,000 since the Nov. 10 sacking of Zhivkov, have said they are breaking away from the group because they opposed its pro-Turkish stand.

the Communists have promised

to provide office space in central

East Berian for a six-party demo-

cratic alliance formed last week.

their word," Weiss said. "But the

fact remains the party is too

powerful. It still runs the media

and state companies. That's how

it was in the past and that's how it

In many respects the party, like

the country, has changed beyond

recognition since its Stalinist lead-

er Erich Honecker fell last

is now."

October.

"We'll have to see if they keep

In an interview with Reuters, Beron conceded the opposition was losing support in the provinces where nationalist sentiment was rife and blamed antireformists in the Communist Party who he said were trying to

disrupt the democratic process. "This is a double blow against the opposition and against the reformists within the party," Beron, member of the environmental opposition group Eco-Glasnost, said. "I guess part of the grassroots support is lost but we shall not give in to opportunists and we shall regain our support in

The nationalist unrest has sidetracked the already slow pace of reform that has left Bulgaria languishing behind Warsaw Pact allies further down the road to democracy.

lieved strikes and protests over

Andrey Lukanov, one of the

"We will have to appeal to

Beigrade = YUGOSLAVIA COSOSO DE

HUNGARY .

Beron, a biologist, said he be-Med.

the rights issue have the blessing of local Communist leaders unwilling to accept a diminished role since Dec. 15 when the party voted role since Dec. 15 when the party voted to relinquish its automatic right to power and called for free multi-party elections this

young reformists promoted to full membership of the party's ruling politburo after a purge which followed Zhivkov's removal. hinted at some opposition from within, against the ethnic policy.

everybody to stop politicking around and making cheap politics out of a situation which should be treated by everybody with special



care," he told Reuters last week on his return from a visit to Kurdzhali.

Beron said the anti-reformists had dealt a blow to talks begun last week between the Communist Party and the Union of Democratic Forces, an umbrella coalition grouping 11 independent organisations including Podkrepa and Eco-Glasnost, to prepare eventual negotiations towards ending one-party rule. But he added, "I don't think

strong and that many of the re-

forms are not as wide-reaching as

lights in revealing the latest detail

of corruption or misrule in the old

The East German media de-

they seem.

found.

ces now. We shall go ahead with the round table and with our demands for democratic changes while insisting that the Muslim population has the same rights as the Bulgarians."

they can stop the democratic pro-

E. German Communists still strong and getting stronger

By Andrew Gumbel

EAST BERLIN — East Germany's Communist Party is far from beaten and even seems to be strengthening its grip on power after being brought to its knees in last year's popular uprising, say politicians on both sides of the Berlin Wall.

The party still dominates the government, runs the economy and controls most of the media. prompting fears that it could scrap its pledges for democratic change at any time.

"1989 was the year of peaceful revolution in East Germany, but no-one should delude themselves that the struggle for freedom has already been won. It has only just begun," said Oskar Lafontaine, deputy West German Social Democrat leader.

Leading opposition activist Rolf Henrich has even suggested the Communists might use force to reassert their full authority, turning free elections planned for May into a farce.

But for a party that three months ago penned the people behind barbed wire and concrete and kept watch on them with a web of secret police, the Communists are remarkably popular.

According to opinion polls commissioned on both sides of the Berlin Wall, they command between a quarter and a third of the vote, well ahead of any other political force.

"I believe the polls," said Konrad Weiss, leader of the opposition party Democrcy Now. "But much of it has to do with the fact that democratic parties are given no basic facilities to fight the Communists' well-oiled political machine."

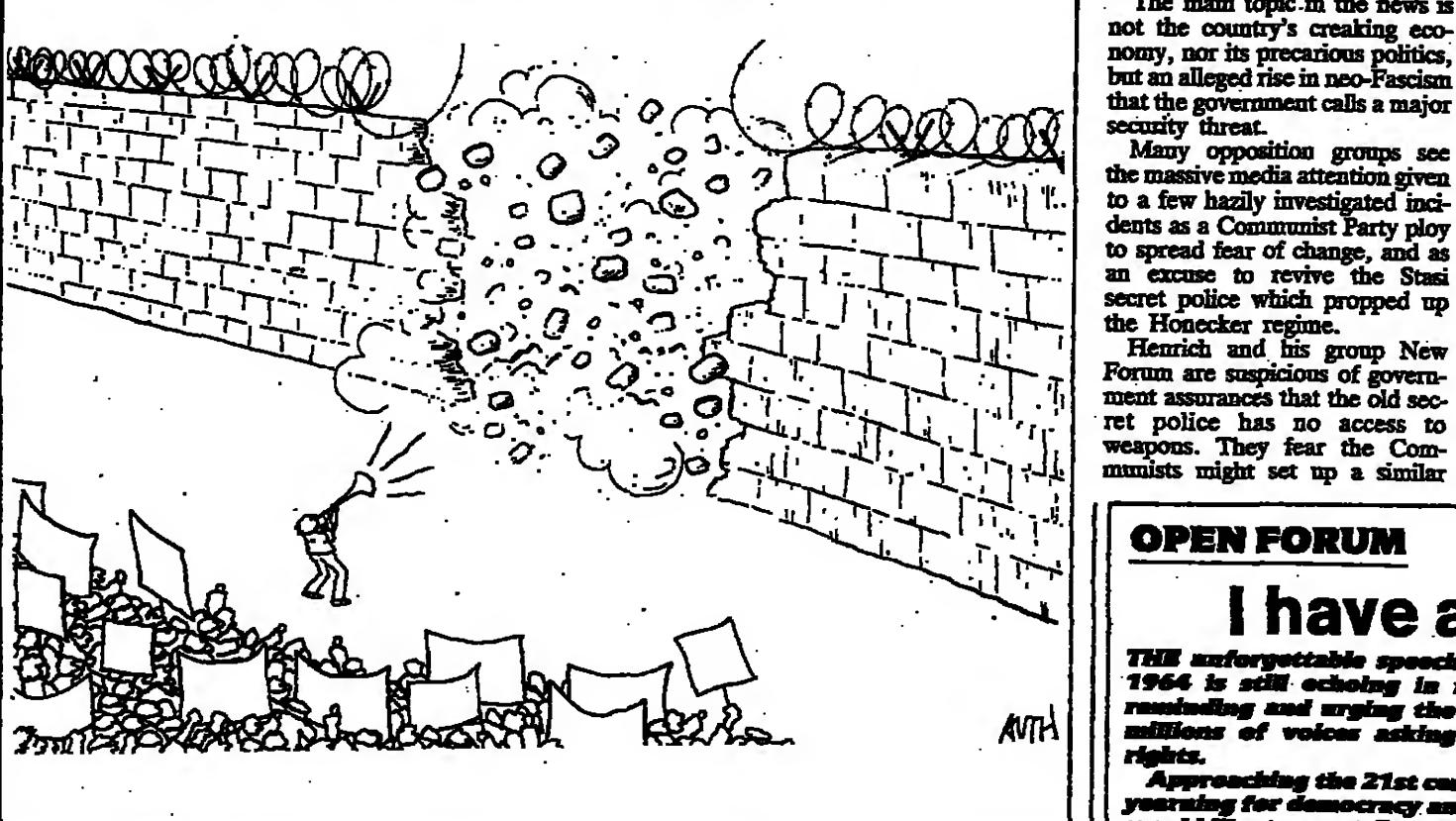
Responding to pressure from the highly fragmented opposition and from West German leaders,

"1989 was the year of peaceful revolution in East Germany, but no-one should delude themselves that the struggle for freedom has already been won. It has only just begun," says Oskar Lafontaine, deputy West German Social Democrat leader.

It has breached the Berlin Wall, allowed other parties to share power, agreed to free elections, dismantied the hated Stasi secret police, denounced the old

Stalinist leaders and put many of them behind bars. Its membership has fallen from 2.2 million to 1.4 million and it

has dismissed large numbers of



11 years on, Cambodian situation still at stalemate

By Chris Peterson

BANGKOK — Eleven years after Vietnamese troops invaded Cambodia, overthrew Pol Pot's feared Khmer Rouge regime and installed a new government under Heng Samrin, the country still endures civil war with little hope of solution.

Vietnam's troops have pulled out, leaving the Phnom Penh government's army, estimated at 60,000 regulars and 100,000 militiamen, to fight the Khmer Rouge and its uneasy non-Communist allies. Heng Samrin's government

was installed on Jan. 7, 1979, and he is now the country's president. The dry season, which started in early December and lasts until the end of May, saw an expected offensive by the rebels pushing.

out from their heavily defended bases along the Thai border. The gein-mining area around Pailin, a nearly deserted township, fell to the Khmer rouge, while their allies, factions headed by former head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk and veteran Cambodian politician

Son Sann, have grabbed territory Vietnamese withdrawal." further north.

But despite their efforts, the rebels have so far failed to take control of a major population centre, although the provincial capitals of Battambang and Sisophong are threatened. "Most of the fighting is small-

scale, local confrontations." a Western diplomat said. "It's pretty much on the level of AK-47s. rocket grenades and mortars." "The government's aim seems

to be to concentrate on pulling back to hold the main towns. The Khmer Rouge seem pretty free to roam around the area around Pailin, although it's very underpopulated out there."

He said neither side seemed able to make a decisive move and said a long-term military stalemate was expected.

"The Kinner Rouge are strong - some 30,000 of them - but unlike the period just before 1975, they don't have the backing that they had then of north Vietnamese army," he said. "They have no transport, no artillery to speak of. Likewise the government is on its own now with the «says should be monitored by the

Sukhumbhand Paribatra, a for-

Cambodia."

mer adviser to Thai Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan, said that he thought the rebels might capture some towns from government forces in the coming months and predicted small-scale fighting further inside the country. But he added: "I expect continued military stalemate inside

The diplomatic situation also remains deadlocked.

End of year messages from guerrilla leaders, monitored in Bangkok, made it clear that they continue to reject Prime Minister Hun Sen's Dec. 9 plan for a United Nations-enforced peace settlement, which would effectively stop the Khmer Rouge in its tracks and leave the present administration in place pending elections.

The Khmer Rouge, who diplomats say were responsible for more than a million deaths during their four years in power, insist that the Phnom Penh government step down and share power with all factions, an arrangement it

United Nations until free and democratic elections are held. Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge vice president, who makes most of its public pronouncements, stressed that the organisation and its allies had not changed

thier demands.

"The world is requested to consider this. No party will be allowed to violate any other party and Cambodia will in no way be a threat to other countries," he said in his New Year Message broadcast by Khmer Rouge radio and monitored here.

Son Sann, in his message, repeated his stand that the Vietnamese troop withdrawal was a farce and urged acceptance of the power-sharing plan as well as the immediate reconvening of the Paris peace talks on Cambodia.

Diplomats said Britain's public acceptance of the Vietnamese troop withdrawal and recent Australian diplomatic efforts to seek a United Nations "Namibiastyle" solution, although key moves, had not altered the basic

intransigence of both sides. "I sometimes wonder if this isn't where we all were before," a Western diplomat said.

security force to intimidate voters workers to save money. But politicians say the Comin the May 6 elections. munists are still enormously

> hardiners who he said still hold several posts high in government, the media and industry. "I don't think the new leaders such as (party chief Gregor) Gysi

order but criticism of the new party leaders can scarcely be "For a few weeks the papers were more open, but now they dle ranks," he said. are back to printing Communist

propaganda again," one East German journalist said. The main topic in the news is not the country's creaking economy, nor its precarious politics.

but an alleged rise in neo-Fascism that the government calls a major security threat. Many opposition groups see the massive media attention given to a few hazily investigated inci-East German author Lutz dents as a Communist Party ploy to spread fear of change, and as an excuse to revive the Stasi

the Honecker regime. Henrich and his group New Forum are suspicious of government assurances that the old secret police has no access to weapons. They fear the Communists might set up a similar

Weiss of Democracy Now is

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worned not only by a resurgence of the Stasi but also by old

are responsible for the neo-Nazi scare tactics. It is the old apparatus which still controls the mid-

Weiss and others believe it is vital to push the Communists into opposition in the elections if East Germany is to become a demo-

I think the party can really change and that it is in the interests of the country for it to do so. But this is only possible if it is no longer in government," Weiss

Rathenow said any economic rapprochement between West Germany and a Communist-led East Germany would make corruption endemic to the political system. "We would become the Sicily of a united Germany. And the

party would play the role of the matia, controlling all income and outgoings and taking a cut for

OPEN FORUM

have a dream

THE unforgettable speech of Martin Luther King in 1964 is still echoing in many parts of the world, reminding and arging the world leaders to listen to millions of voices asking for freedom and human

Approaching the 21st century, many who have been yearning for democracy and liberation for a long time would like to pay tribute to the Soviet lender Michael Gorbachev, as the world has witnessed the remarkable role played by this international figure, and the courageous steps he took towards reforms. He is the force bekind the most memoritors events of the 1980s; the termination of the cold war, the withdrawal from Afghanistan, the full of the Berille Wall, the transformation of governments in Poland, Csechoslovakie, Hungary and Romania.

As the long suffering East Europe is going to load a new and better life in the 1990s, there are high hopes that other countries with similar problems as East Berope's, will follow the same stope townsite "glasmost" and "perestroller".

Having ended the cold war between the two superpowers and setting up negotiations, regional conflicts will hopefully be solved in the 1990s. As far as the Middle East is concerned, the most

important achievement some months ago, was the coose-fire of the eight-year old Gulf war. But what is. still hanging in the air and persisting is the longest

CHRISTICS THE PRIOSCIMEN SUBSTICE. Entering the third year of the sprising, the Palestimians are determined to go on fighting the occupation and drawing the world's attention to their plight, hoping that the international community will overtually put an and to their suffering. Despite the heavy

losses, they insist that there will be no turning back to the pre-intifacts period. "The occupation has got some advantages for us," a young Palestinian said, "It has taught as how much freedom, hamen dignity and descouracy are valuable to all nations. There will be no turning back." As an Arab, I would like to see the end of the Lebenses civil war, and the long-waited Arab unity

and democracy in action is the coming decade. And as a Palestinian, I have Martin Lather King's drawn. It is the drawn of scaling the enclaving and immiliating occupation unding, and the establishment of the independent Palestinium state, I would like to hear the Palestinian children singley the song Martin Luther King sung in the and of his famous speech, "The are free. We are free. at last."

By Sana Abu Huwaii

Andy Warhol retrospective in Cologne

'All is pretty'

By Giecia Zimmermann-Thici IN-Press

ONE OF THE MOST important and extensive collections on the history of Pop art is to be currently found at the Ludwig Museum, Cologne. Following the successful debut by American artists at the Biennale in Venice in 1968, Peter Ludwig, an art collector from Aschen, realised the significance of this style and purposefully collected works of this genre from then onwards. Besides works by Robert Rauschenberg, Roy Lichtenstein and Class Oldenburg, the Colognobased Ludwig Museum also posscenes 39 works from all stages in the artistic development of the undisputed "King of Pop Art," Andy Warhol. The Cologne museum was therefore the logical venue to stage the first major retrospective of Andy Warhol's works — two years after the artist's unexpected death. It was assembled by the New York Museum of Modern Art and is being shown in Cologne only before moving on to Venice and Paris. It is to be held nowhere else in Federal Republic of Germany. The exhibition enjoys the status of a homage. Apart from the rooms designated for touring exhibitions, the whole of the lower floor at the Cologue museum

was cleared specially for Warhol. No other contemporary artist has experienced so comparable an honour.

The exhibition starts off with an overview of the artist's early works which are relatively seldom seen. Born as the son of an immigrant Slovak family in 1928, Andrew Warhola had already become one of New York's most successful, young, commercial artists by the 1950s. The development of the connection between art and commerce dates from this time - something which Warhol practised in a masterly fashion as a matter of course at a later date. With his series of 32 Campbell soup cans, he became famous overnight. With the aid of a slide projector, the artist simply painted over the firm's whole range. In the art context of America, this reproduction painting of commonplace consumer goods almost had effect of a parody of the then prevailing abstract Expressionist movement. Warhol made a radical break with artistic subjectivity and a ensitive inner feeling such as in the case of Jackson Pollock, Soon afterwards Warhol abandoned the remains of painting technique and switched to the purely technical reproduction of existing photos with the aid of a silk-screen process. It was through him that this technique

became a recognised form of artistic production. It is one of oddities of Warhol's art that his works, which are devoid of all forms of the "autographical" and lack of any suggestion of a personal style, can be automatically attributed to him as "typically Warbol." He made the absence of all things pesonal his hallmark; his works do not need an auto-

Andy Warhol's success stems from his skill in radical simplification. He does not create art worlds of his own: he quotes the commonplace myths of his time and his country. During the turbulent years of the Vietnam war, the civil rights movement and world-wide student unrest, his artistic style, which affirms the "Ameican Way of Life" unconditionally, met with great success. He not only rejects the separation of art and mass culture; he turns the consumer dreams of the masses into images. His list of works reads like a catalogue of the American Dream. His provocative, uncritical message runs: "All is pretty."

The Cologne exhibition is literally brimming with duplicated coloured-in consumeer goods; dollar bills and portraits of film stars. As if people were also consumer products, Warhol monumentalised the stars of his age — Marilyn Monroe,

Elvis Presley, Jacqueline Kennedy -- in serialised rows at a time — like dream pictures — which they really were for the general public. Like no other, Warhol was drawn as if by magic to elamour and success. His series of Mao portraits — for which a whole room has been set aside in Cologne — is the clearest proof of the great value he attached to the category of notoriety. Mao becomes a star, transcending all political significance; Marilyn Monroe becomes the icon of

female attractiveness, transcending all personal tragedy. One distracting feature of the Cologne exhibitison is the great amount of space devoted to "disaster pictures." As an impassive observer, Warhol reproduced mass-media photos of traffic accidents, airplane crashes and suicides. He did not even shrink from the artistic portrayal of the neither understanding nor electric chair as a symbol of his country. His objective eye is honest enough to show the nightmarish aspects of the darker side of the American dream. For reasons of space, the retrospective, taken over from New York, had to be reduced by some 50 works. As a special supplement to this stage of its tour in Cologne, the exhibition is rounded off with several German motifs. As one of the most sought-after artists of the present age, Warhol constantly it."

accepted commissions. On display are his "cars" for Mercedos. variations on the themes of Cologne Cathedral and Ludvig via Beethoven and - fascinated by super kitsch -- a garishly-coloured version of Neuschwanstein Castle. All in an . the parade of German symbols. Andy Warhol succeeded in liv-

ing his very own American dreams of social advancement. He not only painted stars; he also worked carefully on the myth of his own stardom. The success enjoyed by Warhol's art is undoubtedly rooted in the redefinition of the relationship between artist and public. He made a radical break with the concept of elitist art. His art made no attempt to resist superficiality; on the contrary, it sought it as a means to success. His pictures are what they are: they demand pondering on the purpose of this art. The portrayals of consummate banalities are important as documents of the times. Oriented towards the visual habits of contemporaries, these cult images provide the affirmation which has still not been achieved by any form of avant-garde art movement; uncomplicated and direct access to the public. "I love America, and these pictures represent some of my comments on

Philippine artists dig for cultural roots

Cologne, until Feb. 11, 1999. (Photo: INP/

By Jon Miller

The major retrospective of Andy Warhol's

work will be on show at the Ludwig Museum,

BAGUIO CITY, THE PHILIP-PINES — On the island of Luzon, some miles north of Manila, lies the highland city of Bagnio. Built as a summer retreat by American administrators at the beginning of the century. Baguio is best known for its cool climate, its pine forests and its delicious fruits and vegetables. It could just as well be known as a showcase for the Philippines' perplexing hybrid heritage.

Peopled by Ilocanos and Pangasinans from the north, Pampangans from the central plain. Tagalogs and Visayans from the south. Chinese traders, native Igorot tribespeople and exotic combinations of all of the above. Baguio is a living example of just how difficult it is to put a finger

4 on "Filipino culture." A group of relative newcomers is trying to come to terms with such a tangled culture, seeking in the process to separate what is good from what is not so good in a country that suffers from a centuries-old - and often crippling — identity crisis. By using native materials and looking to the non-Western rituals and objects of their tribal neighbours, Baguio artists aim to define what they hope will become a uniquely Filipino art.

As a result, this city, with a student-dominated population of about 200,000, is fast becoming one of the centres of creative arts in southeast Asia.

2 4 2

"Beginning in the 1950s, Filipino artists looked to New York for their inspiration," says Santiago Bose, a Baguio-based artist whospent several years in the United States. "Even in the 1960s, when inationalism was in vogue here, our art was still derivative. We still thought the centre of the art world was in New York."

Bose is now working in various media, from native textiles to high-technology building materials, as he tries to respond to the physical, economic and political realities of being an artist in an impoverished Third World

A number of others — sculptors, painters, performing artists, filmmakers and musicians have come to Baguio to explore the same sort of issues. Several have been successful artists in Manila or in foreign countries. There are many obvious attractions here, not the least of which is the climate. The artistic community is still relatively small and is less concerned with carning a reputation and commercial success than its counterpart in the

But while Baguio is undeniably a pleasant place to live and work, most of the artists who come here are asking serious questions. What is Filipino art? How can an avant-garde artist be of use in a developing country? Is it possible to learn from Western culture without being dominated by it?

David Baradas, an Americantrained anthropologist and president of the Bagnio Arts Guild, says that Baguio artists, with their interest in the traditions of the fiercely independent Igorots native to the surrounding Cordillera. mountains, are at the cutting redge of a nationwide search for sources of pride and inspiration.

"A country that is very insocure about its cultural identity which the Philippines is — has nowhere to look for inspiration except in its remaining ethnic cultures," he says. "They represent for us, in terms of national heritage, the only version of our culture that is antainted by Westem influence.

Alfred Koch)

It's ironic, Barada adds, that many of the tribal artists themselves are embarrassed by their work. "It so happens that the indigenous art of the Cordilleras is of a very high quality," he says. "Some of the native scriptures are being fought over by major museums around the world. But many of the people who create them don't know that. The Christianisation process has built an outlook that makes them put these things down. So there they are, trying to laide their art, or throw it away, or reject it."

It's part of a problem that can be traced to the coming of the Spaniards in the 16th century, according to Baradas. Although the Philippines is inescapably Asian (its nearest neighbours are Taiwan and Indonesia), by the 1800s most Filipino art was almost indistinguishable from that of Mexico or Cuba. With the entrance of the Americans at the end of the 19th century, artistic expression strayed even farther

from its pre-Christian roots. "Today, if you refuse to acknowledge that portion of the country's heritage that has been preserved, then you are really left with no identity," Baradas says. "Your only choice is this undefined, amorphous tradition that is vaguely international in character. It's an adaptive, at times imitative version of Western culture. Unfortunately, it's the culture of the modern urban Fili-

Political and aesthetic dissatisfaction with this sort of quasi-Western orientation has led many Baguio artists to look more closely at the world around them. Some of their most interesting work incorporates the landscape

itself, and much of it involves large numbers of people. Performing artists and street theatre are very popular. The crumbling • facade of a ruined building on Baguio's main street has been transformed into a stage for often-bizarre artistic "happen-

This sort of public art meshes well with Filipino traditions, says Santiago Bose. "Filipinos are not as individualistic as, say, the Americans. You'll notice that most of the artwork we have here involves communality, which is essential to maintaining small

naut's problem, feeling that the film needed a resolution. But what could be done to bridge the communication gap? Building a Philippine "Mission Control Centre" was out of the question. But then he thought about a major Baguio landmark, two huge military communications towers that sit like twin ears on top of a nearby mountain.

In a gesture full of ironic humor, Bose got some friends together and built a matching pair of communications towers on another mountaintop — towers especially designed to receive messages from the stranded

"A country that is very insecure about its cultural identity — which the Philippines is - has nowhere to look for inspiration except in its remaining ethnic cultures. They represent for us, in terms of national heritage, the only version of our culture that is untainted by Western influence."

Communality often expresses itself in an emphasis on the artistic process rather than on the product. "In most cases," says Bose, discussing his own work, "the object is secondary. It's the participation and the reaction of the audience that's important."

That approach can lead to some fascinating collaborations. In 1982 Kidlat Tahimik, an internationally known experimental filmmaker who lives in Baguio, made a short film called "Yoyo." In it, an ingenious Filipino fashions a space ship from junk that he finds in his yard and blasts off for the moon. When he arrives, he finds that he can't communicate with the people back on

carth. Bose thought about the astroastronaut. Unlike the models across the valley, though, these were made of bamboo. "It's typical Filipino," he notes with a smile. "Appropriate technology."

Even when it's humorous, there's often a sense of urgency in this sort of work. Traditional cultures are quickly going the way of the dense forests that once blanketed the region. Baguio photographers and filmmakers are now exploring in intimate detail the lives of the Igorot tribespeople who inhabit the mountains around the city. Also, many artists and musicians are using their talents to increase public awareness about ecological

and political issues. Roberto Villanueva, 42, is a

transplanted urbanite now living in Baguio. He recently created a sensation in Manila by building a half-kilometre bamboo labyrinth on the grounds of the Cultural Centre of the Philippines. The design, he says, was based on patterns that Cordillera farmers

use in planting their crops. Another of Villanueva's recent pieces reflects the community theme. On All Saints Day, a Catholic holiday dedicated to remembering the dead, he gathered a large group of friends at downtown Baguio's manmade Burnham Lake. The group built and launched a pair of rafts bearing food and money as an offering to departed souls. Candles were placed in floating coconut shells. lighting the water, and a local

musician played a bamboo finte. It was an invented ritual, combining elements from tribal celebrations in the southern Philippines with mainstream Christian traditions. Villanueva says that the piece itself - titled "Atang Ti Kararna" - was ultimately less important than the communal energy that created it. In this sort of art, even poverty can be a creative asset. At the first Baguio Festival of the Arts, staged in November by the Baguio Arts Guild and the Arts Foundation of the Cordilleras, Villanueva was gratified to find the perfect setting for the raftsand-candles piece: a flooded gal-

lery basement. Recorded flute music echoed in the dark chamber, and people came in ones and twos to sit on concrete steps and watch the floating candles. It was a fitting and good-humored use of available materials and an effective statement about making art in a place where infrastructure is weak, materials are scarce and creativity itself is a precious re-SOURCE. World News Link



Artwork displayed by an association of artists in Baguio, a Philippine city witnessing an unusual search for identity through the arts.

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'Import ban encourages smuggling, black market'

Government shifts tactics to reduce consumer consumption

By Suhair Obeidat Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In line with Jor-'dan's market-oriented economy and the new 1990 fiscal budget recently presented to the Lower House of Parliament, which aims at raising more domestic revenues, imported products banned a year ago are now allowed but with a very high tariff to discourage private and public consump-

The ban on imported goods imposed by the then government of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai was lifted Jan. 1, 1990 as pledged when the ban was imposed.

"I believe that lifting the ban is a wise decision which best fits the Jordanian economic policy built on freedom and encouragement of the private sector and the freedom of trade," Minister of Trade and Industry Ziad Fariz told the Jordan Times in an interview.

According to the minister, lifting the ban has been replaced by increases in customs duties with percentage varying from five to 20 per cent.

"The solution is to import goods, with high customs fees, so the resulting high prices of products decreases their demand, thus decreasing consumption," he said. Decreasing public and private consumption is one of the main features; of the proposed 1990 fiscal budget.

For exampl., brick blocks which were banned but now can be imported but with an increase in the customs duty of up to 40 per cent.

Duties on statues and artifacts have increased .15 to 60 per cent. Customs on cars which were already extremely high before the ban ranging from 100 to 110 per cent will increase another 20 per cent. On the other hand, fees

were reduced on some raw materials which are necessary for production. "Banning products from en-

tering the country does not solve the economic problems, it might even encourage smuggling, leading to more serious and chronic problems," Fariz explained.

Taking the years 1987 and 1988 as a measurement scale, during the ban, the government lost about JD 45 million from customs duties on imports. The value of the imported goods amount to JD 46 million because the customs duties are 100 per cent.

"It is true that the ban reduced the commitments involving foreign currencies, and other financial policies like customs duties and income taxes resulted in lower consumption," he said. "But although some of these policies

may prove effective on the short run, on a long term basis, they might have negative implications and side effects, like sanuggling and the increase of transactions of foreign currencies in the black market," he

maintained. Others also believe that the ban was only a short term solution. Jawad Al Anani, an analyst, agrees that the ban was effective in reducing the import bill, but on the long run, it would have lead to imperfections in the market, such as black markets and smuggling.

The best policy is not a total ban, but to use the price mechanism, i.e. higher tariff charges (a higher tariff wall), and which is more effective than a total ban," he said.

On the other hand, lifting of the ban may lead to a temporary increase in imports, because merchants did not import at all last year. But Anani does not think that the total import would be as high as some people expect, due to very high prices, because "importers would not want to stock their shelves with unsold

commodities," he explained. The proposed policies, as seen by Fariz, are most effective when implemented in light of financial stability, which can be achieved, according to the minister, through increasing

exports of national industries

meeting for the first time since

the ouster of Romanian dictator

Nicolae Ceausescu and the de-

cline of communist power in East

Germany and Czechsolovakia

chides the Soviet Union, Poland

Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria

Czechoslovakia, East Germany,

Vietnam, Mongolia and Cuba.

"There have been deep

The 10-nation organisation in-

over the past three months.

and finding new markets. "We do have some industries that provide the country with stable annual revenue of \$600 million, which could increase with the rise of production and improved marketing." Faris said.

These industries, which had a much better performance during 1988, according to Fariz, include the cement. phosphate, and potash, in addition to pharmaceuticals and chemicals.

The government's policy is directed towards encouraging and supporting the private sector to perform productive and export-oriented projects, since they also provide working opportunities, thus reducing unemployment" he said

However, economists commenting on the 1990 austerity budget, pointed out that although the plan cuts public and private consumption and saves on foreign currency, it also limits job opportunities and reduces the total economic

The proposed budget holds out any chances of further employment, regardless of the increased focus of attention on improving both the quality and quantity of local products, because money is intended to be channelled in the economy towards new investments, said an economist.

He added that higher taxes



Ziad Fariz are a discouragement for anyone wanting to invest in the

country. The import ban included all types of cars and transportation vehicles, televisions and videos, air conditioners, microwave ovens, refrigerators and freezers, artificial fruits and flowers, tiles, statues and chan-

Although the ban has been lifted, there are still some items which are not allowed for import. These include mineral water, table salt, fresh milk and tomato paste. Some farm products are also prohibited based on the agricultural

scason. Meanwhile, white cheese and labaneh have been imported in very small quantities for the manufacturers of confectionaries and sweets.

Foreign cigarettes will continue to be imported by the Ministry of Supply, which has always been the sole legal importer in the country.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Liwa wins hotel contract in Morocco

MARRAKESH (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) company Liwa has signed an accord with the Euro-Japanese company Intercontinental for the management of five hotels in Morocco. Officials said two billion dirhams (\$247 million) would

be spent on renovating and enlarging hotels in Marrakesh, Fez, Agadir and Rabat and construction of a fifth in Casablanca. Dr. Mania Al Oteiba, UAE minister of petroleum and mineral resources who is also president of Liwa, said the deal was finalised in Marrakesh after seven months of negotiations with Intercontinental. Oteiba said Liwa, created in May 1989, also planned to invest in Moroccan fisheries, agriculture and air transport. The hotels will be in the five-star category and Otelba said they would attract a new category of tourists to Morocco.

S Arabia seeks 'gold explorers'

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia, with the world's largest proven oil reserves, has decided to step up its search for gold. The cabinet decided at its weekly meeting to invite international firms for negotiations on exploration, mining and production of gold, the Saudi Press Agency reported. The agency, monitored in Cyprus, quoted a cabinet statement as saying companies chosen for the mining projects would bear all costs. It said the kingdom's share of the profits would come either through taxes or profit-sharing schemes. A gold mine at Mahd Adh-Dhahab was inaugurated in 1983. In 1986, large quantities of gold were also discovered in the Sukhavrat area. Saudi Arabia also produces substantial quantities of limestone, Gypsum, marble, clay and sait. Iron ore, copper, lead, zinc, silver and uranium are known to

Iraq opens IPSA-2

NICOSIA (R) — The Saudi and Iraqi oil ministers Tuesday formally opened a pipeline that will add some 1.1 million barrels per day (b/d) to Iraq's oil export capacity, the state-run Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. The Iraqi pipeline through Saudi Arabia (IPSA-2) was inaugurated by Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Al Nazer and his Iraqi counterpart Issam Al Chalabi at a ceremony in the Red Sea port of Yanbu. Chalabi said the \$2 billion pipeline ws strategically important for Iraq, which started the project two years ago at the height of its eight-year war with Iran. The new pipeline will take Iraq's export capacity to at least 4.1 million b/d compared with its OPEC-assigned quota of 3.14 million b/d. Oil industry sources said the 142-centimetre, 960kilometre pipeline has an initial capacity of around one million b/d rising to around 1.65 million b/d by the end of January after completion of pumping facilities.

Europe air traffic increases

BRUSSELS (AP) — Traffic on European airlines last summer grew by 6.5 per cent compared to the summer of 1988, but a quarter of all flights suffered delays of over 15 minutes, the Association of European Airlines (AEA) has said in a statement The 21-member AEA said traffic growth in the summer, measured from April to October, reflected an increase in capacity on many flights. In October, total passenger traffic rose by 5.1 per cent from October 1988. Freight traffic grew by 8.7 per cent in the summer. All-cargo services jumped 27 per cent during the period, compared with a rise of less than three per cent for freight on passenger aircraft. The AEA said that 25 per cent of all European flights were delayed for more than 15 minutes during the summer. compared with 21 per cent in the summer of 1988 and 15 per cent in 1987.

Greece eases currency controls

ATHENS (R) - Greek tourists, whose travels are limited by tough foreign exchange controls, may now take the equivalent of 1,000 European Currency Units (ECU) (\$1,200) when holidaying in other European Community (EC) countries. This is an increase from 840 ECUs (\$1,000) and effective immediately, Bank of Greece officials said Tuesday. The decision to raise tourists' foreign currency allotment came after pressure from the EC to bring Greek regulations closer into line with those of its EC partners, official bank sources said. The 1,000 ECUs applies to. each person travelling to the EC for a vacation, regardless of the number of days away. Greeks may charge the equivalent of only \$300 a year overseas on their credit cards. The measures also raised the amount which Greek tourists may take to countries. outside the EC to \$700 from \$600, the officials said. Greeks travelling overseas on business may take as much as \$2,000 regardless of the number of days away. This sum remained unchanged.

Hungary plans to privatise Malev

BUDAPEST (AP) — Hungary's reform-minded government plans to privatise the Maley state airline, the deputy transport minister said Tuesday. In an interview with the Magyar Hirlap daily, Sandor Kalnoki Kiss said the government had already received many offers for Maley but planned to hire a professional company to handle the sell-off. "We have not agreed with anyone but we give everyone a hearing and urge them to take part in the competition," Kalnoki Kiss said. He said that while it would be difficult for the government to retain a controlling stake in the airline, his ministry would seek a guarantee to have a say in future company decisions, the Hungarian MTI news agency reported. Kalnoki Kiss gave no further details. Maley's 22-plane fleet flies to 40 countries in Europe, the Middle East and North America.

Price rises proposed to cut Greek budget gap

ATHENS (R) - Prime Minister Xenophon Zolotas, whose allparty government was formed to deal-with the country's economic crisis, proposed Monday a new wave of price rises to help finance Greece's high budget de-

The amount of increases, to be discussed Wednesday among the coalition's conservative, socialist and communist leaders, was not disclosed but includes higher taxes on fuel and cigarettes, higher bus fares and more effective tax collection.

The measures would be the second round of price rises in the past month. In December, the government ordered rises ranging from 18 to 60 per cent. Newspap ers described the move as "an" aspirin to the problem.

More than a million workers are expected to strike on Jan. 25 protesting against the price rises and campaigning for higher salaries.

The budget deficit for 1989 is expected to top two trillion drachmas (\$12.5 billion), about 22 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP), Greece's output of goods and services.

"If the deficit is not financed the proper way then the only alternative solution is to issue inflationary money," government spokesman Prokopis Paviopoulos quoted Zolotas as saying.

He said the measures aimed to reduce state borrowing by 2.5 to three per cent of GDP in 1990 GDP for 1989 is forecast at 8.7 trillion drachmas (\$54.5 billion). "If the measures are not taken

the state borrowing needs will go up by one per cent," Pavlopoulos Zolotas also proposed cutbacks on bank subsidies and the immediate introduction of cash reg-

isters in all private businesses to help curb tax evasion. But with elections scheduled for April it is uncertain if the three parties will adopt Zolotas's

suggestions. Analysts say the final programme may include measures to fight widespread tax evasion within the -black market economy, estimated to equal 35 per cent of the GDP,

Canadian, U.S. firms eye Koor

but not much else.

TEL AVIV (R) — American and Canadian investors are discussing buying ailing Koor Industries Ltd, Israel's largest industrial concern, a treasury official said Monday. He said Shamrock Holdings of California Inc. and the Canadian-American Belzberg Group had separately expressed interest in the trade union-owned conglomerate which is about a !! billion dollars in debt.

It was uncertain-whether Koor's foreign creditors, which sued to liquidate the concern in 1988 over its failure to repay a \$20-million loan, would be willing: to back a purchase bid that required further write-offs.

Comecon debates turning point U.S. banks reduce Most of the premiers were

SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP) — Soviet Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov and other officials Tuesday said the Comecon trading bloc will stick together although it faces a major overhaul to keep pace with reforms in Eastern Europe.

"There is no danger of Comecon falling apart," Ryzhkov told reporters after attending the first closed-door session with premiers from the six East European countries. His assessment was shared by

Czechoslovak Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus who told reporters, "Comecon will survive in one form or another."

Last week, Klans startled Westerners and East Europeans by

U.S. dollar

Pound Steeling

Deutschemark

Swiss franc

One Sterling

One U.S. dollar

One ounce of gold

suggesting that Czechoslovakia would unilaterally abandon its Comecon commitments if the 10nation trading bloc was not reformed.

His calls for drastic overhaul in a Eastern Europe swept by democratic reforms and the toppling of hard-line communists won support from the reform-minded nations of Poland, Hungary and Romania.

The two-day Comecon meet-

ing, held at the Natonal Culture Palace, was being attended by premiers and top officials from the seven Soviet bloc countries, the premier of Mongolia and vicepremiers from Vietnam and

changes in Comecon countries. This session will be a turning point in its activities," said Bulgarian Premier Georgi Atanassov; who opened Tuesday's meeting. He added, "I hope this session will turn Comecon into an efficient organisation." **AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES**

105.6

He acknowledged that cooperation among member countries is "losing its dynamism," and said that Sofia meeting will also have to consider new forms of cooperation with the European Community and other Western na-346.4 106.7

> The agenda for the two-day meeting included coordination of economic plans for 1991-95, the Hungarian state news agency MTI said.

prime lending rate

NEW YORK (AP) — Several big U.S. commercial banks lowered their prime lending rate a half percentage point Monday to 10 per cent, signalling cheaper loans for a broad range of consumers and businesses.

If the reduction, the first in nearly half a year, spreads through the U.S. banking industry, it may eventually benefit Third World debtor nations. many of whose loans have their interest rates tied to the prime

The move reflected the declining cost of money that banks have enjoyed in recent weeks, the result of a more liberal credit policy by the Federal Reserve (Fed), the U.S. central bank.

Citibank and First National Bank of Chicago were the first to cut the key rate. They were later followed by Morgan Guaranty Trust Co., Bankers Trust Co., Continental Bank Corp., Mellon Bank and Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co.

The Fed has been moving to ease interest rates recently in order to forestall a dramatic economic

downturn. Lower rates encourage businesses and consumers to .borrow money.

The prime rate is a benchmark that many banks use to calculate a range of other popularly known loan rates, including variable rate home equity loans.

Argentine woes exacerbate

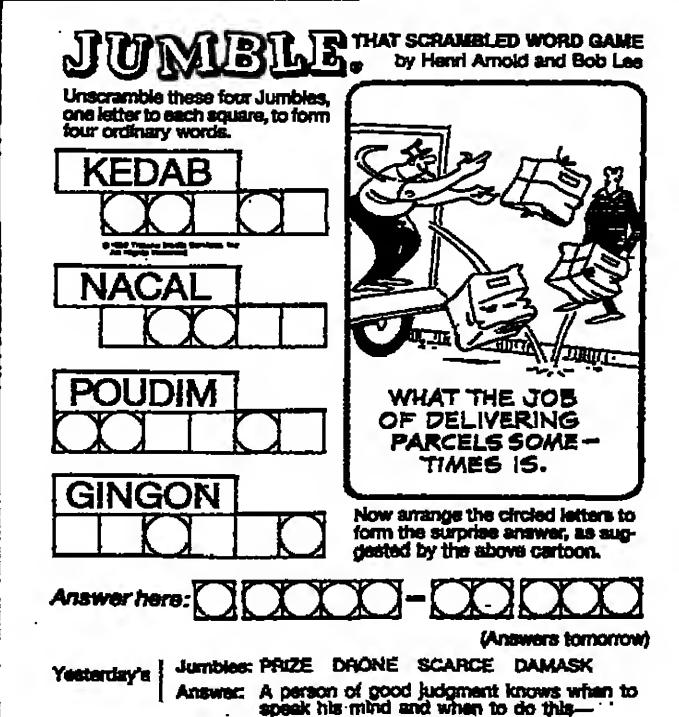
BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Leading stocks plunged by 53 per cent Monday when the market reopened for the first time in more than a week. Meanwhile, the government disclosed that inflation in December soared by 40.1 per cent, bringing the 1989 total to a record 4,923 per cent. In more bad news for the government of President Carlos Menem that is implementing its fourth stabilisation plan in six months, the national currency slipped against the U.S. dollar to 1,650 australs per dollar, down from about 1,400-1 last Friday.

It was the sudden devaluation of the anstral two weeks ago that ignited price hikes of 100 per cent and more in almost every item that can be found in supermarkets and department stores. The rate last November was 1,000-1 and last February, 17-1.

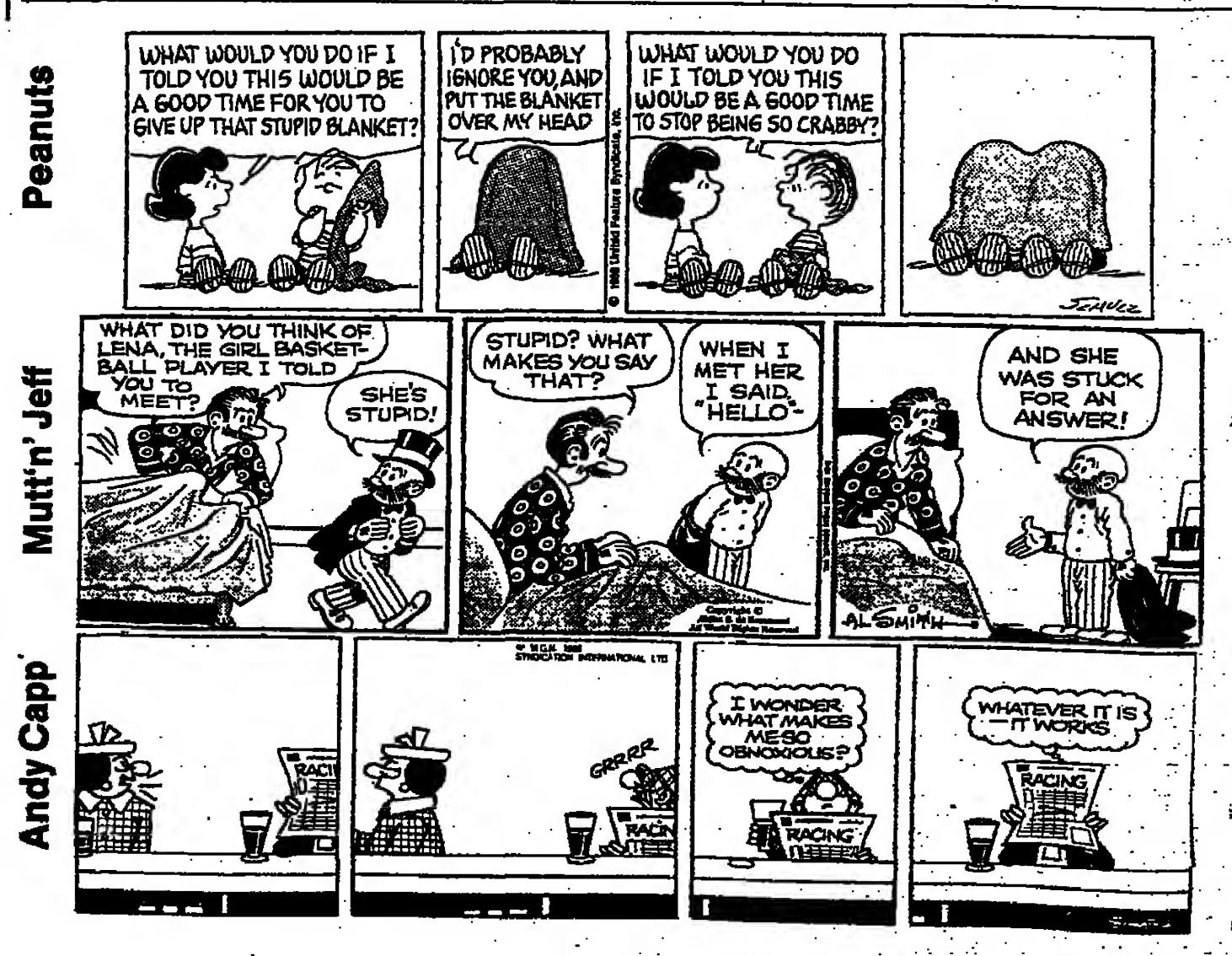
January inflation likely will be at least 40 per cent due to a carryover effect, acknowledged Moises Iconikoff, planning secretary at the economy ministry.







MIND HOW HE SPEAKS



WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Tuesday, January 9, 1989

Central Bank official rates

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for

leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession

on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

1.6560/70

1.1610/20

1.6710/17

1.8865/75

1.5227/37

35.07/12

5.7000/50

1252/1253

144.85/95

6.1275/1325

6.4955/5005

6.4885/4935

402.40/402.90

1081.8

391.2 428.5

1071.1 387.3

424.3

French franc

apanese yen (for 100)

Italian Hra (for 100) Belgian franc (for 10)

U.S. dollars

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

Dutch guilders

Belgian francs

French francs

Japanese yen

Swedish crowns

Danish crowns

U.S. dollars

Norwegian crowns

Italian lire

Swiss francs

SYDNEY — The market weakened further amid profit-taking and nervousness over a sharp fall in Tokyo. The All Ordinaries Index fell nine points to 1,690.7.

TOKYO - Political rumours and bad news, overwhelmed the market, sending investors to the sidelines and pushing prices down as much as 565.07 in the afternoon. They recovered some losses on index buying before the Nikkei Index closed at 37,951.46, down 343.50.

HONG KONG — The Hang Seng Index closed 5.92 higher at 2,822.16 on bargain-hunting but most investors remained uncommitted due to the lack of clear direction. SINGAPORE — The stock market closed on a mixed note after

volatile and moderate trading, brokers said. Gains in indexcomponent stocks sent the Straits Times Industrial Index to a record close of 1,556.48, up 9.06 from Monday. BOMBAY — Share prices ended mixed on alternate bouts of light

buying and selling, with trading characterised by caution. The Bombay Index dropped 3.83 points to 774.50. FRANKFURT — Japanese buying of West German stocks helped shares surge more than 1.5 per cent. The Dax Index closed 22.70

up at 1,865.94. ZURICH — Swiss shares rose slightly on easier money market rates. The SPI Index closed at 1,153.4, up four points. PARIS — Shares ended mixed in this trade. The CAC-40 Index closed up 1.33 points at 1,970.28.

LONDON — Share prices were firm in extremely dull trade after the market reversed earlier weakness as sellers failed to emerge. At 1630 GMT the FTSE index was 2.3 points up at 2,433.6. NEW YORK - Light profit-taking and some futures-related selling pushed stocks lower but losses were small and volume light. By 1700 GMT the Dow was off six points at 2,790.00.

Ajax players, managers in alleged tax evasion case

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands secution planned to hear former (AP) - More than a dozen officials and players of Ajax Apagerdam, one of the Netherlands' most renowned soccer citibs, will pare to appear is court in consection with an alleged tax evanion scheme, a prosecutor confirmed here Monday.

The case, into which the Dutch fiscal authorities have been probing for six years, involves the purported exaggeration of transfor costs of star players, while have been named for the Dunch their salaries were allegedly downplayed, prosecutor Led de

Formal charges are to be filed later this month, according to de

He refused to identify the players and officials by name, nor would be specify the amount involved.

But newspapers here reported on Monday that the Dutch internal revenue service had estimated that the Amsterdam club awad 4.7 million guilders (\$2.46 mil- soccer league. PSV Eindhoven lion) in taxes on unreported re- which is hunting for its fifth con-

The reports said that the pro- table.

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16 OF

nuld be

hoard members Too Harmsen and Los Bartels, as well as 11 former players, among them Socren Lerby, Frank Arnesen, Felix Gasselich, and Henning

Court proceedings were expected to begin late in April or early May, weeks before the start of the World Cup tournament in Italy. So far, three Ajax players astional side. None of them have been mentioned in connection

Ajax, 22 times of Netherlands' national champions, rose to the pinnacle of soccer fame when it won the European Champions' Cup three consecutive times in the early 1970s with Johan Cruyff, one of the best forward in

Honour Division, the nation's top

BY CHARLES COREN AND OMAR SHARIF

Q.1-Both vulnerable, as South you

472 OKOSS OAKSEZ GAJ

West North East . 17 Pag Page

What do you bid now?

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South \$16 VAQIISS OASS \$Q6 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East

What action do you take?

1 4 3 4 7

Swift horse

5 Sarber's Ress

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10 Air hexard 14 "Two Years

18 Fere pickup

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49 Time - half

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62 "Thereby

64 Traveled 65 Resided

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1 Totals

5 Spetter 6 Pitfelt

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Chama

2 Shore bird

3 Simu visitor

Instrument

66 impression

88 Elegant style

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: AA72 PAQJE2 OKQ6 #Q5 The bidding has proceeded: North East South West

2 NT Page

THE Daily Crossword by French Green

with the case at issue.

Dutch soccer history.

The team ranks second in this reason's standings of the Dutch secutive national title, heads the

GOREN BRIDGE

C 1986 Tathons Sandin Sentence, Inc.

WEEKLY EXIDGE QUEZ

What action do you take? The bidding has proceeded:

> Q.5-Neither vulnerable, as South Told:

North East

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you **4654** ♥Void ♦387 ♣A¥Q9842 The bidding has proceeded: South West North 2 ★ 3 ♥ 3 ★

Yesterday's Pazzle Selved:

DARL GAROL SERF BERR BENDE ANDL

THE TANKE PROPERTY

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BELLIGE BOOKS BULL

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50 Moving about

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54 Unclothed

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Tel: 625155

59 Coin

Q.4-As South, vulnerable, you AAJ VEISES OAKO AKOS What is your opening bld?

⊕K ♥872 ♦AKQ1874 ⊕AQJ The biddies has proceeded:

What do you bid now?

What action do you take?

New Zealand Open:

Guy knocks Mecir out

Serving with speed and depth, he

refused to a 4-0 lead over Mecir,

who last year was runner up to

world number one Ivan Lendl in

game, Guy steadied and served to

5-2 with beautifully controlled

play. After yielding to Mecir's

being in a muddle. Be sure you

have your plumbing in good order

SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem-

ber 21) Calm down business-wisc

before you attempt to make any

judgement. Take some present to your attachment who now has hurt

SAGFITARIUS: (November 22 to

December 21) Join with both

friends and groups to have a

pleasant social time. Be with your

attachment today as much as you

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

January 20) A new attinude at your

bome can bring much interest and

pleasure. Avoid that trip with

friends that would cost consider-

AQUARRUS: (January 21 to Febru-

ary 19) Try to see friends and

acquaintances that have been diffi-

cult for you to contact. Entertain-

ing at home requires that you not

PISCES: (February 20 to March

20) Don't let any of your family

change your home or money plans.

Adopt a new practical attitude

Today's child: If your child were

born today he or she will want to

know all about the vaine of gold,

silver, government certificates

stock, bonds, property, etc. Any-thing to do with high-finance will

be of special interest to this child

and they will want to have an

education that defines all of the

towards your close attachment.

possibly can.

be preoccupied.

When broken to 30 in the fifth

the Australian Masters.

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (R) last year to 25. - Stove Guy of New Zealand Just before going on court,

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JANUARY 16, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

ground strokes.

scored the biggest victory of his carper when he upset Czechoslovakia's Miloslav Mocir 6-3, 6-3 in the first round of the \$150,000 New Zealand Open tennis tounament.

in another first round match, 21-year-old West German Markus Zoecke came close to dispatching top-seeded Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union.

Medic, who has not played for a month, struggled to regain his form after badly scraping his foot during an Italian holiday. The Czechoslovak has slipped from

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Aspects at the Full Moon today

future security is concerned. An

unexpected journey is a definite

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

You will now have new ideas for

your home which are extremely

good now. Your attachment now

will become more of a real partner.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20)

Use an opportunity now that gives

you a chance to be helpful to a

good friend. If workmen are to

make repairs at home, this is the

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21)

Make as many new friends as

possible at this time. A forward

looking friend has excellent ideas

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) Persons with good helpful

ideas will come into your home.

You will be able to handle basic

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A trip

with your loved one could be very

beneficial now. Be temperate in

the amount in which you take on

VIRGO: (August 22 to September

22) Pursue an important financial

matter with an interesting new

friend. Business persons will be

very helpful to you at this time.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October

22) You will have to be exact to

keep your financial affairs from

Jordanian nationals, currently needs to fill the

following full-time positions in response to our

growing consulting business in Jordan and the region:

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experienced marketing consultant, to become project

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capacity in an international firm. This position will

require the willingness to travel several weeks at a time

in the region as well as strong interpersonal.

Consultant, Marketing

We are in need of an experienced marketing consultant

with experience gained either in an international

marketing consulting organization, or working as a

marketing manager in an international firm for 2-4

years. Candidates will have an MBA degree in

marketing from a recognized U.S. or European business

school. This position will require the willingness to

travel several weeks at a time in the region as well as

Candidates for both positions need to be Jordanian

citizens, with fluency in Arabic and English; and are

expected to show a high level of-commitment and

motivation, team spirit, and willingness for hard work.

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time to do it.

afford you an opportunity to make at your home.

his world number four ranking service, he won the set decisively, losing only one point in the pro-

Guy's older brother told him to forget reputations and set his second set but the New Zealander, who admitted he had played mind on playing a simple game of pervously throughout the match sound serving and accurate soon broke and thrust on to Guy, ranked 209, did just that.

play the first of the grant slam

Open, next week. "I have not had enough prac-

Zoecke, who just a few weeks ago was dancing to celebrate the breaching of the Berlin Wall in his native city, came close to celebrating even more wildly in

on service and off the ground, he went down 7-6 (7-5), 6-7 (4-7) 5-7 to the world number 18 only after

Mecir broke Guy twice in the

Mecir will not be a happy man as he leaves for Mclbourne to tournaments, the Australian

tices," he said. "I think may be I a meeting last week, and should have practised more."

his clash against Chesnokov. Displaying an awesome power

Hopes of joint Olympics in Berlin move closer to reality

BONN (R) — Hopes of staging a historic joint Olympic Games in East and West Berlin, nurtured in the dust and debris of the Berlin Wall, have been boosted by two; new important pledges of surà-

The city of Hamburg said on Tuesday it was withdrawing its bid to host the 2000 or 20/14 games to switch its uppoint to

East Germany's National Olympic Committee (NCAC) gave official approval to the project at West Berlin officials, now want the International Orympic Committee (IOC) to discuss a joint bid at a meeting l'ater this year. "A dream is coming true both sides of Berlin will bid

German Mayor Walter Momper "We want East Berlin to put together its plans as soon as it can

work together with the two Olympic committees to make the plans reality." Berlin last staged the games in

heads West Berlin council's Olympic organisation committee, said the two states needed to reach a political agreement on the issue and sharpen their plans before an IOC meeting next

September. "We want the IOC then (in September) to discuss the fact we are prepared to stage the games," Kuhn said. "It is no longer a question of whether Berlin will hold the games but how they will hold them."

The IOC will decide on the venue for the 1996 games at its together for the games," West Tokyo session in September. It is believed to be sympathetic towards the idea of a joint Berlin games, but is not scheduled to decide on the 2000 Olympic

Hamburg's . ..ly withdrawal from West Germany's Olympic race, announced by mayor Henning voscherau, came as a boost to Berlin but a surprise to the rest Hans-Juergen Kuhn, who of West Germany's Olympic

> candidates. It recently agreed with rival candidates Frankfurt, Stuttgart and the Ruhr region that they would abandon heir plans only when the Berlin bid was certain. If it is to have any chance of clinching the most prestigious event in sport Berlin will need to

> build and save money fast. Early estimates expect the bill for the games to total around 3.75 billion marks (\$2.2 billion), although the bid is sure to attract support from industry and commerce in West Germany, one of

> the world's strongest economies. Apart from a solitary West Berlin stadium which holds 3,000, Berlin cannot presently boast any arenas capable of hosting Olym-

pic competition.

Diplomatic drive defuses Commonwealth Games boycott told Reinters.

By David Stamp

Reuter AUCKLAND, New Zealand - New Zealand, once denounced for sporting ties with South Africa, has defused a boycott threat to the Commonwealth Games with a drive to clean up its international reputation on fighting apar-

Only six months ago the Auckland Games faced a repeat of the African-led boycott which ruined, the 1986 Edinburgh Games. Brit now organisers and the government are confident of the biggest turnout in Commonwealth Games history when they open on January 24.

"The success of these games, and it now looks as though they are going to be very well attended ... is safeguarded by the very extensive diplomatic effort that we've undertaken in the last 18 months," said foreign minister-Russell Marshall.

"If anything pre-vocative is now done in the next three weeks I would be extremely surprised if any notice was taken of it," he national players. English cricke-

New Zealand has long been the centre, of storms about sporting contracts with South Africa, main-

ly 0 ver rugby. The New Zealand All Blacks and the South African Springboks are generally recognised to be the best rugby union teams in the world. in 1976, 23 African nations boycotted the Montreal Olympics

after the International Olympic Committee refused to expel New Zealand for sending the All Blacks to South Africa. Five years later New Zealand was split when the Springboks paid a return visit. Anti-apartheid

with police and rugby fans during the tour. Under the Labourgovernment, which came to power in 1984, New Zealand has drastically cut

protestors fought pitched battles

sports ties with South Africa. But hopes of a full turnout dived in May when the Organisation of African Unity threatened a boycott over a rugby tour of South Africa by a group of inter-

ters struck a further blow in July wealth meetings. when they announced a rebel same day the Auckland Games were still fresh in Africa.

men were involved, Marshall ments. "The consideration of some boycott or pressure for the British teams to be thrown out was very much in people's minds."

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's refusal to impose economic sanctions on South Africa sparked a walkout at the Edinburgh Games, with India and Malaysia joining African and Caribbean teams.

With sponsors fleeing the prospect of another debacle, games organisers and the government stepped up the diplomatic campaign. The foreign ministers of Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Zambia visited Auckland while Marshall pushed the New Zealand line at United Nations and Common-

Marshall admitted that memorseries in the republic starting the ies of the 1981 Springbok tour

But he said that with hindsight Although in both cases British a Commonwealth foreign minisrather than New Zealand sports- ters' meeting in Canberra last August had proved the turning admitted to some anxious mo- point. "There was a general acceptance that any boycott would be detrimental to the Africans themselves, to New Zealand and would only benefit South Africa."

"We didn't want South Africa to win a (public relations) victory," he said. "(A boycott) would prove to the world and to the Commonwealth that South Africa still had the capacity to disrupt an important Commonwealth institution, and that would give them satisfaction."

But not all New Zealanders share Marshall's views. "There's a widespread perception that the New Zealand Labour government has a strong anti-apartheid policy," said John Minto of the campaign group HART (Halt All Racist Tours).

Ian Findlay, is a disciple of the

revered Australian swimming

Guru Laurie Lawrence, whose

methods have been described as

bit mad to swim the 1,500 metres

in the first place and Lawrence, a

The story goes that one young

Lawrence went over to a near-

They say you have to be a little

bordering on the sadistic.

Ordinary Housman poised to glide past the world

By Robert Kitson Reuter

SYDNEY — The tanned, rugged Aussie battler still tends to be MMMS Management Consultants, the most people's idea of an Australeading Jordanian management consulting company. lian sporting hero. Then there's with 80% of its professional staff consisting of Glen Housman.

Housman is a pale, gawky 18year-old country boy from Oneensland who is on the brink of becoming the fastest long-distance swimmer of all time.

He lodges with his elder sister in an obscure suburb of Brisbane and looks as though he would

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have problems being served in a pub. In the pool, however, he is anything but ordinary.

Last month in Adelaide he swam the fastest 1,500 metres in history, only to be denied the privilege of breaking a six-yearold world record by a technical

The International Swimming Federation, world swimming's governing body, refused to ratify Housman's hand-stopped time of 14 minutes 53.59 seconds because the automatic timing equipment failed to register his touch at the

end of the final length. Legendary Soviet Vladimir Salnikov therefore remains the official record-holder with a time 1.17 seconds slower.

Such a crushing disappoint-

ment would have devastated most

athletes. Housman, informed of the bad former rugby union scrum-half, news in the middle of a hastily- makes a habit of pushing his convened press conference, mut- charges even closer to the edge tered "thanks a lot matey" to the

embarrassed official and wan- swimmer complained he could no dered away without another longer cope with Lawrence's word. Even the most cynical punishing training routines. scribes were impressed.

the wake of Dawn Fraser, Steve

systems in modern sport.

His response could well come by wall, scraped his knuckles during the Commonwealth down the bricks and then re-Games later this month when the turned to the poolside with blood rest of the world is set to discover and torn skin prominent. "That's Australia have found another pain, sonny," he said. "Now let's swimming champion to follow in finish those lengths."

After the record-that-wasn't in Holland and Tracey Wickham. Adelaide, Lawrence informed Auckland will also provide a Housman that he was, in his chance to examine what must be opinion, "a weak little mongrel" one of the most unusual coaching because he failed to go out the next day and beat the record Housman's 25-year-old coach, again.

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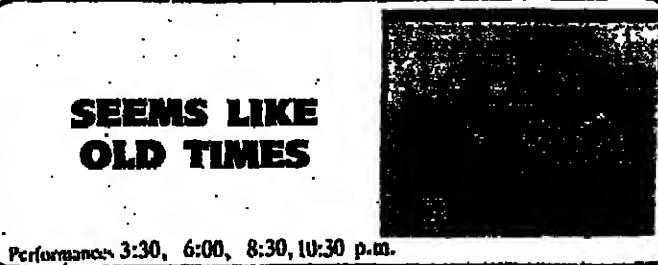
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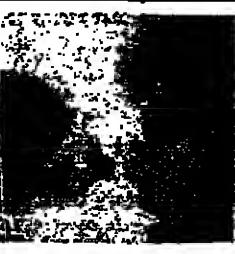
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Hoaxer claims

\$35m lottery win

NEW YORK (R) - It was every

editor's nightmare — a hoax that

landed on page one and was the

top story on the television news.

The hoax was a young woman's

widely-trumpeted claim that she

was the lone winner of the \$35.

million New York State Lottery,

the largest single prize in the

contest's history. The woman:

calling herself Charlie Taylor,

and accomplices hired a \$400 a

night hotel suite and called in the

press to celebrate her "victory"

with champagne. But Taylor was

carefully orchestrated by profes-

sional hoaxer Alan Abel, who

once conned the New York.

Times into printing his obituary

and on another occasion locked

about 30 reporters in a room to

meet an actor posing as "deep

throat" of Watergate fame. The

New York Post put the story on

page one headlined "\$35 million"

and she's single". The Times ran

a story on the lottery on an inside

page and reported that the

woman had claimed a win. But

the Daily News blared, "it's a

boax." The paper said its repor-

ter Ingrid Devita went up to the

hotel suite and notice a sign on a

room that said, "slumber room;

do not disturb." She opened the

door and recognised Abel be-

cause she once took a course he

gave on practical joking. Abel

showed no remorse. "People are

a bit upset but we are a group of

merry pranksters, so what can

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lying and her claim was an event ...

Cambodian rebæls launch grenade attack in capital

BANGKOK (Agencies) — Khmer Rouge guerrillas claimed Tuesday that they sent Cambodia's president and premier fleeing to Vietnam with a grenade attack on the capital in which soldie and policemen were killed.

peaceful.

· The reported attack Saturday would be the most serious in Phnom Penh, which has been largely spared in an 11-year-old guerrilla war against the Vietnamese-installed government. However, it could not be verified and some previous Khmer Rouge claims have proved exaggerated.

The Cambodian News Agency SPK claimed the weekend was peaceful in the Cambodian capital

However, Khmer Rouge army radio said that after the rebel attack on Phnom Penh. Vietnam immediately sent Prime Minister Hun Sen and President Heng Samrin and other leaders to Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City.

The broadcast monitored in Bangkok said the insecurity prevented Hun Sen from meeting in Phnom Penh with Michael Costello, Australia's deputy foreign secretary. Instead, it said, Hun Sen went from Ho Chi Minh City to Cambodia's eastern Svav Rieng province bordering Vietnam to meet with the envoy.

Costello told reporters upon arriving in Bangkok Tuesday that the meeting was arranged for Svay Rieng "well before" the Khmer Rouge attack was alleged to have taken place. He could not confirm the Phnom Penh attacks.

Allied non-Communist forces led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Tuesday that resistance agents had waged a series of grenade attacks last month. saying one grenade a day was exploded in the capital between Dec. 5 and 10.

Their statement said 15 Vietnamese civilians, one Vietnamese "expert" and two Cambodian policemen were wounded in attacks near Premier Hun Sen's house on Dec. 7, and the royal palace and the Defence Ministry on unspecified dates.

No one was reported injured in the grenade attack near the premier's house. SPK, monitored in Bangkok

Tuesday, did not mention any

attacks but stressed that Sunday's National Day celebrations took place in "total security." It said Saturday and Monday also were

National Day marks the anniversary of the 1979 downfall of the Khmer Rouge, which was driven out by invading Vietnamese troops after a 3½-year reign in which hundreds of thousands died.

SPK denied reports that a lack of security in the capital had forced Hun Sen to go to the eastern province of Svay Rieng to meet Costello, on Sunday and Monday.

The agency said Hun Sen was making an inspection tour of the province bordering Vietnam and had invited Costello to meet him there. It said Costello was travelling from Ho Chi Minh City to Phnom Penh.

The guerrillas earlier had said they attacked and set ablaze Cambodia's second-largest city, Battambang, Friday and Saturday. A Western diplomat in Thailand confirmed Tuesday that the town was attacked but said "the effect was more psychological

than strategic." Khmer Rouge army radio said Tuesday that resistance forces had lobbed five grenades in the centre of Phnom Penh near the office of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, killing or wounding some Vietnamese

and "lackey puppets." It said the attack took place early Saturday.

Meanwhile a new diplomatic initiative to revive stalled Cambodia peace talks was gathering momentum Tuesday amid signs that warring Cambodian factions were stepping up preparations for their dry-season offensives.

Thai officials said Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, Costello and Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co were due to arrive in Bangkok in the next 24 hours in a renewed attempt to bring peace to Cambo-

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State James Baker will go

to Moscow early next month to try to clear away key obstacles to a

new U.S.-Soviet treaty sharply reducing long-range nuclear

missiles, U.S. government officials said Monday. Baker also is

considering a visit to Prague to demonstrate U.S. support for the

peaceful revolution in Czechoslovakia that displaced a hard-line

Communist government, the officials told the Associated Press.

The trip to Moscow for talks on Feb. 6-7 is one of three sessions

Baker intends to hold with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard

Shevardnadze before a U.S.-Soviet summit meeting in Washing-

ton in June. The projected centerpiece of the summit is a treaty

slashing U.S. and Soviet arsenals of long-range bombers, sub-

CAPE CANAVERAL (R) — The space shuttle Columbia

blasted off Tuesday on a critical satellite-rescue mission, the first

manned U.S. space launch of the new decade. With a thunderous

roar that shook observation stands five kilometres away, Col-

umbia rose from its launch pad at about 7.35 a.m. (1235 GMT)

and cut a path of smoke and flame across a partly cloudy sky.

During a 10-day flight, Columbia's five-member crew is to deploy

one satellite and retrieve another that is threatening to plunge

back to Earth. Thick cloud cover forced the cancellation of

Monday's scheduled launch, but the second attempt at getting

Columbia off the ground came off flawlessly. "Liftoff for

Columbia. A new decade of space flight begins," said Lisa

Malone, launch commentator for the National Aeronautics and

Space Administration (NASA). About two minutes later, Col-

umbia's twin solid rocket booster detached smoothly and fell

LONDON (R) — The crew of the Soviet space station Mir took a

three-hour spacewalk overnight installing new equipment and

taking samples of the exterior finish of the craft, the Soviet News

Agency TASS reported Tuesday. Alexander Viktorenko and

Alexander Serebrov attached two stellar transducers intended to

improve the accuracy of Mir's orientation system, said TASS,

monitored in London. The cosmonauts left the space station at

2023 GMT and returned safely to the space station after three

hours in outer space, the agency said, quoting the mission control

centre. Viktorenko and Screbrov, who Monday marked their

fourth month in orbit, were in good health and felt well, TASS

PEKING (AP) — Chinese leaders prepared Tuesday to declare

an end to the 7-month-old martial law in Transfimen Square and

possibly elsewhere in the capital in a gesture aimed at regaining

foreign confidence, sources said. The action, expected at mid-

night (1600 GMT) would be mainly symbolic because troops

already have been withdrawn from city streets. It would not

indicate greater freedom of dissent, because most activities

banned under martial law, such as auti-government demonstra-

WASHINGTON (AP) - Jesse Jackson said he would soon travel

to South Africa following an announcement by the government

that it would grant him a long-denied visa. South African Foreign

Minister Pik Botha announced Monday that the government has

told Jackson he "will be welcome to come to South Africa and the

necessary visa will be issued to him to travel to South Africa at a

mutually convenient time." Jackson, a former presidential candi-

date and civil rights leader, said the government's decision and

the recent release of several leaders of the banned African

National Congress demonstrates that "some walls have come

China to end martial law in Peking

tions and speeches, are illegal under other laws.

Jesse Jackson to visit S. Africa

down."

Cosmonauts take 3-hour walk from Mir

marines and missiles by 30 to 50 per cent.

Shuttle Columbia blasts off

Baker to visit Moscow next month

dia after 11 years of fighting. Also due in was Chinese Depuby Foreign Minister on South-L'ast Asian Affairs, Lu Xuejian. Officials said they could not muke out the possibility Cambo-

diant Prime Minister Hun Sen

might make a surprise visit to Bang tok. On the eve of his visit to Bangkick, Alatas told reporters he hold talks with representatives of Camiliodia's trapartite rebel coalition and Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi "Savetsila on Australia's

Under the plan, Cambodia's seat at the United Nations,, now held by the reb els' Coalition Government of L'emocratic Kampuchea, would b'e left vacant until a new government came to

Alatas said he was prepared to hold a new round of peace talks Jakarta if the war ring factions showed signs they were willing to

Thai officials said many of the visiting politicians were due to attend a three-day priva te meeting in the northern That city of Chiang Mai to discuss the future of the Asia-Pacific region, in particular Cambodia.

A senior Soviet official arrived in Peking Tuesday for talks Ou Cambodia prior to a U.N. Security Council meeting on resolving the Cambodian conflict.

Deputy Foreign Minister for Asian Affairs Igor Rogachev planned to spend between four and five days in Peking for talks with Chinese Foreign Ministry officials on Cambodia, Soviet embassy spokesman Yuri Lysenko said.

Lysenko said it was likely the two sides would discuss a recent proposal advanced by Australia for the Vietnam-backed government in Phnomi Penh to be replaced by an interim U.N. administration until free elections can be held.

The Soviet Union has responded positively to the Australian proposal. China has taken a less clearcut stand, saying it supports a U.N. role in bringing peace to Cambodia but has not withdrawn its support from the peace plan of resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

1990," spokesman Lubos Dobrovsky was quoted by the Czechoslovak News Agency (CIK) as telling journalists. The spokesman was not immediately available to confirm Aquino: Next the comment. Czechoslovakia's new torcien minister, former dissident Jini coup may Dienstbier, returned from Mos-

neutral MANILA (R) — Philippine Pres ident Corazon Aquino warned Tuesday that a new coup attempt could overthrow her and plunge the country into "nightmarish

succeed if

people stay

rallied to her defence. The military amounced it had ordered tighter security at stockade for political prisoners in Manila after uncovering a plan by rebel soldiers to rescue leaders of

bloodbaths" unless the people

last month's failed army rebellion. Aquino, in a speech to police officers. said mutineers who wanted to overthrow her would

bring a new reign of terror and tyranny to the Philippines. The nation would continue to live under a shadow of fear so

long as members of the military

believed they could change the government by force, she said. "For as long as the gun will be used to cow the unarmed into silent obedience, and as long as the citizenry will allow itself to be badgered into submission, there will always be a possibility that the force and the will of an armed few may prevail over the many,"

Aquino warned. She urged Filipinos "to unite and help us break once and for all this sinister threat to our freedom

and prosperity." "For if our people will allow armed might to supplant this constitutional government," she said, "surely there will be no end to nightmarish bloodbaths such as those happening elsewhere in the

world." Aquino, who took office in a popular 1986 revolt that toppled the late President Ferdinand Marcos, said democracy in the Philippines was threatened by armed powerbrokers and politicians driven by "overpowering" greed and ambition."

More than 100 people were killed and hundreds wounded in December in the sixth and most serious attempt to topple Aquino. Army rebels have threatened to try again, accosing her government of corruption, inefficiency and weak leadership.

Aquino said only a very small portion of the military took part in the mutiny, dismissing press reports quoting a captured rebel officer as saying he believed most of the anned forces was involved.

At least 6 killed in S. African strike clash

JOHANNESBURG (R) — At least six people were killed Tuesday in a clash near Johannesburg between striking South African transport workers and employees opposed to the stoppage, police

"The latest we have is six people killed and 18 injured but it is possible this number may rise," a police spokesman said. The casualties occurred when

two groups of blacks armed with clubs and large knives fought on a platform at a railway station in Germiston, a drab industrial town east of Johannesburg, police spokesman Captain Ruben Bloomberg said. It was the most violent incident

in a nine-week-old stoppage by workers of the state-owned South African Transport Services (SATS) who are pressing for recognition of their union and higher

Tuesday's clash brought to 22 the number of people killed in violence related to the stoppage. Lawyers for the South African Railways and Harbour Workers Union told reporters that pitched

battles broke out when a trainload of striking workers arrived at Germiston for a union meeting. Crowds of non-strikers were waiting on the platform and fighting erupted.

Police arrived and fired teargas to disperse the mobs.

An hour later several bodies wrapped in plastic were wheeled out of the station to waiting ambulances, watched quietly by bundreds of tense, black onlookers.

PRAGUE (Agencies) - The

Soviet Union's estimated 80.000

troops in Czechoslovakia de-

ployed at ter the 1968 Warsaw

Pact invasion, should pull out by

the end of this year, a Foreign

Ministry spokesman said

troops should withdraw from

Czechoslovakia by the end of

cow last month saying the Soviets

and Czechoslovaks will open

talks this month on withdrawing

the Soviet troops in Czechoslo-

ing the Soviet-led invasion that

crushed the "Prague Spring" re-

forms in August 1968 and have

since remained under agreements

BONN (R) — Prime Minister

Toshiki Kaifu, opening a 10-day

European tour, said Tuesday

Japan would aid East Europe as

part of its global responsibilities.

man Chancellor Hehmut Kohl,

Kaifn also said Japan supported

the eventual reunification of Ger-

many based on a 10-point plan

proposed by Kohl in November,

apanese officials travelling with

Kaifu was scheduled later to fly

to West Berlin to deliver a

keynote speech outlining Japan's

him said.

In a meeting with West Ger-

They entered the country dur-

"I suggest that the Soviet

uesday.

leave by year's end

Spots of blood covered the platform where the clash took

SATS, which runs most railways and all harbours and airports, has dismissed more than 22,000 strikers — about a quarter of its black workforce - during

It estimates violence related to the stoppage has caused damage to its property worth 39 million rand (\$15.3 million).

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the country's biggest labour federation, said it had reports that 25 people had been killed and more than 50 injured.

COSATU spokesman Neil Coleman said most of the casualties were strikers and ordinary commuters.

He said 2,000 non-striking uniformed SATS staff flanked by police had pelted the strikers with stones as they disembarked. "It was just a massacre," Cole-

A white post office worker who witnessed the melee said: "It was terrible, terrible,

"Look at that blood," he said, pointing to a dark stain on the platform. There was a man on the ground and others were hitting him with sticks, over and over again."

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman denied the allegations of police involvement in the violence.

"Independent people will tell you police acted responsibly to end the violence," he said. Opperman said the fighting

that the new coalition govern

ment in Czechoslovakia considers

The agreements were signed i

August and October of 1968 after

the invasion, which has now been

condemned by the Soviet Union

and the four other Warsaw Pact

Czechoslovakia considers the

agreements were" null and void

from the very beginning," Dob-

rovsky was quoted as saying by

CTK, which gave no further de-

Meanwhile Two leading Com-

munist Party members in

Czechoslovakia's "national con-

sensus government" have res-

igned from the party, leaving it in

a clear minority on the cabinet.

ment's economic overlord and

first deputy prime minister, had

just handed in his resignation

Communist Party spokesman

Josef Hora told journalists

Vladimir Dlouhy, deputy

prime minister and head of the

state planning office, left at the

"Japan's efforts to cooperate

with the East European countries

are taken from a global point of

view," the officials quoted Kaifu

During the first of his series of

summit meetings with Enropean

leaders, Kaifu said Japan aimed

for closer cooperation with West-

ern Europe on political and eco-

as telling Kohl in Bonn.

nomic policies.

Monday.

Kaifu pledges Japan's

aid to East Europe

end of December.

Valtr Komarek, the govern-

nations who took part.

tails of his comments.

null and void.

pitted 1,000 non-striking SATS staff against 500 to 800 strikers and lasted between half and three quarters of an hour.

Mandlea to be free soon

In a separate development black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela expects to be freed from prison within a matter of weeks and President F.W. De Klerk has pledged to maintain a fast tempo of reform in South Africa.

Mandela's wife Winnie said he had asked her during a prison meeting Monday to begin making preliminary arrangements for his

"This is the first time that I have accepted as a reality that he will be released this year," Winnie Mandela said after visiting the African National Congress (ANC) leader at his bungalow quarters in the Victor Verster Prison north east of Cape Town. "I don't think we are talking

about months any longer," she told reporters. Speculation has been rife for

months that De Klerk would soon free Mandela whose liberty, frequently demanded by foreign governments, is seen by most black South African leaders as a precondition for talks on ending apartheid. Until Monday Mandela, 71,

had dampened such speculation. Asked whether her husband was excited. Winnie Mandela said: "He has no emotions left after 27 years in prison." At a meeting on Monday in

Pretoria with British centrist politician David Owen, De Klerk said he would push ahead with reforms aimed at preparing the ground for negotiations with black leaders on constitutional

"He said quite openly to me that he was in a hurry. He is going to move fast, he wants to keep the momentum going," Owen, hed of the Social Democratic

Party, said after the meeting. Owne said the government would announce further reforms in early February when parliament reopens, including lifting or at least partially relaxing the three-year-old nationwide state of emergency.

"And then I think it is quite likely that Nelson Mandela will come out, in late February or early March," Owen told the **British Broadcasting Corporation** in an interview.

Before talks can begin, the exiled ANC and its internal allies want De Klerk to free all political prisoners, lift restrictions on opposition organistions including the ANC, end emergency rule and remove security forces from black tonwships.

So far the government has made several gestures, including the Oct. 15 rejease of Mandela? close colleague Walter Sisulu and six other leading ANC veterans convicted with him in 1964 of plotting to overthrow the white government.

The government has given passports to Sisulu and the others so that they can visit their exiled colleagues in Lusaka for talks and it has tolerated public railies by the outlawed ANC.

Prague: Soviets should E. German Communists predict rough elections

WEST BERLIN (Agencies) — East Germany's embattled Communists said Tuesday a rough election campaign may be ahead, adding they want to limit the number of "punches below the belt" before the free balloting in

ched a virtual counter-offensive to regain the initiative before the vote of May 6. Still in control of the nation's

media, key meeting places and supplies of such essentials as paper, the Communists have been accused of unfairly exploiting their power.

The Communist Party newspaper Berliner Zeitung reminded its readers Tuesday that the vanious opposition groups are running for the first time and claimed many candidates feel the need to virtually shove opponents out of the way.

"All this leads to the fear that it could get especially rough in the coming weeks," the Berliner Zeitung said in reference to the just-starting election campaign.

The newspaper's commentary said, however, that such roughgoing could be kept in check if all sides reach a fair agreement specitying campaign conduct. Experience shows that punches

below the belt can't really be avoided through such an agreement, but they can be kept to a tolerable amount," the Berliner

Zeitung continued. The Communists in effect are fighting for their political survival in East Germany, which is plagued by shortages of consumer goods and low worker morale. More than 1,000 East Germans

still resettle in West Germany The officials said Kohl expresseach day, joining the 340,000 who ed full support for Japan's diplomatic efforts. But, during reached the West last year alone. East German Communists also lunch after their talks, the chanreacted angrily to West German cellor turned to economics and television plans to beam election

The official party daily Neues Deutschland said that unlike the opposition parties, the Communists will probably be shunned by the West German "news media armada"

More than 150,000 people demonstrated Monday night in nine The Communists, plagued by a cities to keep up pressure against wave of resignations, have launthe Communists. "Down with the SED," protesters in Leipzig chanted, using the

initials of the country's embattled Communist Party. An estimated 100,000 demonstrators there also called for the ouster of Gregor Gysi, who took over as party chief just one month ago.

In Karl-Marx-Stadt, about 50,000 people rallied for independent trade unions and the right to strike, as well as against the Communist Party. The East German news agency

(ADN) also reported demonstrations in at least seven other cities. East Germany's round-table talks between government and opposition tottered on the brink collapse Tuesday, but both sides seemed reluctant to pull out of their discussions over the coun-

try's future. A funious opposition stopped just short of walking out this week's session after accusing the government of a cover-up over the officially disbanded Stasi secret police.

"I don't see the point in sitting here if the government doesn's give us information," said Rolf Henrich of the largest opposition group, New Forum.

However, one of the paradoxes of the weekly meeting is that while neither side can gain much from the idiosyncratic, makeshift parley, neither feels it can afford to leave.

The Communist Party, which still dominates the government, has no constitutional obligation to talk to East Germany's fledgling democracy movement and clearly does not enjoy being called to account for its activities.

you do?" he said. State lottery officials said the real winner has not yet stepped forward. Seoul police crack down on bars

SEOUL (R) — South Korean police are cracking down on bars and discos open after midnight strictly enforcing a new law designed to curb consumer spending. and reduce crime. Yonhap News Agency said police found in a single night 544 entertainment spots in violation. Two hundred people are being investigated and could be fined up to \$4,400 each or sentenced to up to a year in jail, Yonhap said. only bars and discos in hotels and entertainment spots catering mainly to foreigners may remain open after. midnight under the law, implemented on Jan. 1.

Achievement awards

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Paul McCartney, Dick Clark, Miles Davis, the late Vladimir Horowitz and Nat King Cole will receive lifetime achievement awards at this year's Grammy Awards ceremonies. McCartney Clark and Davis have agreed to appear on Feb. 21 at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles for the Grammy telecast, said Michael Greene, president of the National Academy of Recording Artists. McCartney's impact on music as a songwriter and member of the Beatles, as well as his continuing growth as a solo performer were cited as reasons for his award. Davis played a crucial role in the development of jazz since the 1940s, the academy said. Horowitz was included because many consider him the 20th century's greatest classical pianist, and Cole was cited as a leading singer of the 1940s and 1950s. The inclusion of Clark was a surprise because he produces the American Music Awards, which competes with the Grammys. The shows are a month apart and many artists wil appear on only one show, fearing overexposure. "We don't view these shows as competitive and when you look at the big contribution Clark has made to the recording industry, especially in exposing new talent, there is no question he is deserving," Greene said.

Global

weather

(major world cities)

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I	AMSTERDAM_	05	41	07		Cloudy	
1	ATHENS	700	32	.11	52	Clear	
J	BAHRAIN	15	59			Cloudy	
	BANGKOK	21	70	34	93	Clear	
	BUENOS AIRES	19	66			Clear	
ē.	CAIRO	08	46	17	63	Clear	
1	CHICAGO	-02	28	08		Clear	
Į	COPENHAGEN	02	38	80		Cloudy	
ŧ	FRANKPURY	01	34	01	34	Cloudy	
ł	GENEVA	DO	32			Cloudy	
1	HONG KONG	17	63			Clear	
ļ	ISTANBLE.		36	80	43	Close	
Ì	LONDON	06	43	11	52	Cloudy	
ł	LOS ANGELES	10	50	21	80	Cloudy	
i	MADRID,	І	34	12	54	Close	
ŧ	MECCA	18	84			Cloudy	
ŀ	MONTREAL	-01	30	03	37	Cloudy	
ţ	MOSCOW	-02	28	-01	30	Cloudy	
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new diplomacy towards Europe called on Tokyo to open its marand unveiling a billion dollar aid information programmes into kets more to products from West package to Poland and Hungary. East Germany. Germany.

MOSCOW (AP) — The Kremlin's ideology chief has told Lithuanian Communists that their break with Moscow is a blow to perestroika at its most critical juncture.

Vadim Medvedev, a member of the ruling politburo, made the comment as he laid the groundwork for a trip to Lithuania this week by President Mikhail Gorbachev. The visit that will test the Soviet leader's ability to end one of the most serious political crises of his leadership.

Medvedev told Communists and workers at a factory in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital, that the Dec. 20 decision by the re--public's Communist Party to declare independence from the national party affects "...interethnic relations and nationalstate structure and economic reforms," the official Soviet News Agency, TASS, said. The TASS

reforms would be damaged.

Communist Party are a blow to the Soviet Communist Party's unity, to the construction of a revitalised federation and to all of perestroika (economic restructurmg)," TASS said, paraphrasing Medvedev.

The decision to break ties with the national party is seen as a possible precursor to secession by. the Baltic republic of 3.7 millions

The Kremlin is clearly worried by the prospect that the entire Soviet empire could break apart other republics follow Lithuania's bold move.

In an interview Monday with Interfax, a news service of Radio Moscow, another polithuro member warned the Lithuanian move might cause a "domino effect." Alexander Yakovlev implied that Communists in the 14 other republics might also break off from Moscow.

Medvedev said the split be-.tween the Lithuanian and Soviet Communist parties will isolate Lithumians from democratic processes taking place throughout the country. He also characterised it as "an

report did not say how economic expression of no-confidence in the Soviet Communist Party and "The decisions made by the its course for perestroika, as a 20th congress of the Lithuanian blow to perestroika at the most critical time of its development." In remarks carried by Soviet

TV, he called on Lithumian Communists to compromise. "Nobody is against independence," he told factory workers in

remarks. "But let this be together

Moscow blasts Lithuanians before Gorbachev visit with the Soviet Communist "We have to unite, then we will have nothing to fear," the ideolo-

ey chief said. Gorbachev is expected to arrive in Vilnius Wednesday and spend three days trying to persuade the Lithuanians to return to the fold. The Lithuanian grassroots movement Saindis is calling for a giant demonstration during the visit to show the peo-

pie's determination to pursue in-

dependence.

Gorbachev has blasted the split, saying the Communists were giving in to "separatists," but leaders of the breakaway party who met with him in Moscow last week said he also promised not to interfere if they stuck with their decision.

In a separate development, violence has reignited along the Soviet-Iranian border with protesters from Soviet Azerbaijan destroying more border posts, the Soviet government daily Izvestia reported Monday.

Azerbaijani protesters demanding to cross the Araks River, which borders Iran, confronted Soviet frontier guards who set up armoured personnel carriers and trucks to blockade a bridge. However, the guards retreated to "avoid bloodletting," the news-Daper said.

After the protesters passed through the frontier, they destroyed the border posts so that the border between Azerbaijan's Nakhichevan region and Iran is without defences, Izvestia said. The violence was th latest since

protests broke out Dec. 31. Thousands of Azerbaijanis demanding open horders and profication with their ethnic brethren in Iran have destroyed guard observation towers, electronic alarms and communications lines

In another part of Azerbaijan, the official Soviet News Agency TASS said acts of sabotage, hostage-taking, and sniper fire are continuing in the disputed district of Nagorno-Karabakh. A bridge on the highway between the cities of Agdam and Askeran was blown up Thursday and four days later, a powerful blast damaged a railway bridge near Agdam, forcing suspension of traffic.

along the border.

Nagorno-Karabakh has been torn by strikes and violence for two years as Armenians who dominate the population battle-Azerbaijanis for control over the mountainous territory.

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